The New-York Times.

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TELEGRAMS.

Particulars of the Clerkenwell Explosion.

Late Intelligence from the Abyssinian Captives.

Adoption of the New Constitution by the Austrian Reichsrath.

Reported Proposal of Spain to Cede Cuba to the United States.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Clerkenwell Explosion—Examination of the Supposed Delinquents—Public Sentiment in Regard to the Crime—The Inquest on the Remains of the Victims.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 14—Evening.

The Police authorities this morning report 3d three killed and about forty badly injured by the Clerkenwell explosion yesterday.

TIMOTHY DESMOND, JERRY ALLEN and ANN JUSTICE, who were arrested yesterday near the scene of the explosion, were brought to Bow-street to-day for examination. The only proof of the guilt of the prisoners was the fact of their being near the spot, and flying just after the explosion occurred. The prisoners were subjected to a long and sharp examination in the presence of a large crowd of people. Nothing definite was proved against them, and they were remanded to prison.

Messrs. BURKE and CASEY, two of the Fenians who are confined in Clerkenwell Prison, were brought to Bow-street to-day for examination. Nothing was elicited, and the prisoners were remanded. During the examination Mr. BURKE took occasion to deny all knowledge of the cause of the recent explosion in the prison yard.

The excitement in the city last evening was very great. Nearly all the morning journals today have editorial articles on the subject of the explosion.

The entire press seems to be of opinion that the time for lenity toward the Fenians has passed. The *Times* is particularly decided in its remarks, and closes a lengthy article with the following words:

"Let there be no more clemency for Fenianism, which is a mixture of treason and assassination."

Rumors are current that Col. KELLY, the Fenian prisoner, who was rescued at Manchester, is in England, notwithstanding the stories to the contrary, and that he is still directing the movements of the Fenian Brotherhood.

There are those who openly assert that the explosion at Clerkenwell was the result of one of the schemes of KELLY.

An inquest on the bodies of those killed by the explosion will be held on Tuesday next.

The Case of the Alexandra.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 14—Evening.

In the Court of Admiralty to-day PRIOLEAU'S plea, in the case of the *Alexandra*, was admitted. A commission is to be issued for procuring evidence in the United States.

THE ABYSSINIAN WAR.

The English Captives Alive and Well—Progress of the Expedition.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 14.

Dispatches have been received to-day which go to show that the English captives, in the hands of the Abyssinian King, are alive and well. In the meantime measures are progressing for their rescue. A large force of Egyptians, consisting of four thousand fighting men, have joined the English expedition at Massowah.

AUSTRIA.

Adoption of the New Constitution.

VIENNA, Saturday, Aug. 14.

The new Constitution, after a long debate, has been adopted by the Upper House of the Reichsrath.

WEST INDIES.

Late Intelligence from St. Thomas—Affairs in Jamaica—The American Emigration Scheme Abandoned.

HAVANA, Friday, Dec. 13.

Advices from St. Thomas state that the city was crowded with shipwrecked sailors. The inhabitants were returning to the island, and tranquility and confidence had been restored.

News from Kingston, Jamaica, is to the 5th inst. The American emigration scheme had been abandoned, in consequence of the Government refusing to grant a subsidy to the line of steamers.

A *Te Deum* had been celebrated in the churches for the preservation of the island from the late hurricane.

The Legislature was soon to assemble to consider a project for the imposition of a tax on tonnage.

The weather was more favorable, but the coffee crop had suffered severely.

Intelligence from Demerara states that the Legislature had granted a subsidy to the English Mail Company.

A dry dock was about to be inaugurated.

By the explosion of a boiler on the Helms Plantation many people were killed.

The Spanish Government Proposes to Sell Cuba to the United States for $150,000,000.

Special Dispatch to the Evening Telegram.

HAVANA, Thursday, Dec. 12.

Authentic information from Spain is received with the important intelligence that the Spanish Government have made a formal offer to the American Minister at Madrid to sell Cuba and Porto Rico to the American Government for $150,000,000 in gold. The terms of sale are as follows: $50,000,000 in gold are to be paid down in cash on the signing of the treaty and the formal delivery of the island to the authorities of the United States. A second $50,000,000 in gold to be paid one year thereafter. The third installment of $50,000,000 in gold to be paid at the end of six years.

Great excitement prevails here over the news, the extinguishment of Slavery being one of the consequences of the sale. The national pride is disposed to grumble a little over the transfer, but the general feeling, except among the oldest families, is one of satisfaction. It is of course known that the owners of slave property will be fully compensated out of the purchase money.

Brother Jonathan, in Cuba, with his accustomed acuteness, has scented out this sale of the island in advance. An American company, on the strength of the belief that the annexation of Cuba to the United States, and the abolition of Slavery under the provisions of the United States Constitution, must come before long, has taken time by the forelock and already purchased an island near Nuevitas for the purpose of colonizing thirty thousand acres. With the sale of Cuba and the abolishment of human servitude on the island the slave-traders' last hopes are gone.

It is regarded here as certain that the bargain will be completed forthwith, the enormous value of the possession to the United States being unquestioned. The only matter of surprise here is that the Spanish Government is willing to sell at so low a price.

MEXICO.

Senor Romero to Return to Washington—Mexican Finance—Miscellaneous Intelligence.

HAVANA, Friday, Dec. 13.

Advices from Mexico state that Señor ROMERO is about to return to Washington as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States. Mexico will also send diplomatic agents to the South American Republics.

Full information had been received in the City of Mexico relative to contracts made in the United States for arms and munitions of war during the French intervention, and a decree was about to be issued by President JUAREZ, consolidating the bonds issued therefor, and specifying in detail those recognized by the Republic.

PORFIRIO DIAZ was on the road to the capital with the trophies captured at Queretaro.

The Mexican journals object to the holding of a secret session by Congress.

Robberies continue everywhere in Mexico, and organized bands of brigands are numerous.

RECONSTRUCTION.

The Virginia Convention.

RICHMOND, Va., Saturday, Dec. 14.

In the Reconstruction Convention to-day the following resolutions of inquiry were offered:

Of incorporating in the Bill of Rights a clause declaring all test oaths diametrically opposed to the principals of Republican liberty; of establishing a system of school education for all classes; of allowing naturalized foreigners to hold property after one year's residence, and be eligible to State offices after three years' residence in the State; of abolishing capital and corporal punishment for crime; of enfranchising all persons from whom it is in the power of the Convention to remove existing disabilities.

A resolution declaring all debts contracted since Jan. 1, 1860, in the purchase of slaves, null, was referred.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee introduced a resolution that,

Whereas, There is only about $100,000 in the Treasury, and $700,000 will be required to pay the interest due Jan. 1; therefore, the Auditor and Treasurer are ordered to suspend payment of interest until the Convention is satisfied there is money enough in the Treasury to pay the interest of Jan. 1.

The resolution was referred to the Committee on Finance.

A resolution of inquiry as to how the the State Educational Fund has been disposed of, was referred.

The resolution and amendment relative to the intimidation of voters came up, and the Convention appeared determined not to go into a political debate, and, as a very long one had already taken place on the same resolution, the previous question was sustained by 62 to 25 votes, and the matter was referred to a committee.

The Convention adjourned.

MARINE DISASTERS.

Schooner Ashore at Sandwich, Mass.—The Mails.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 14.

A vessel reported ashore at Sandwich proves to be the British schooner *Amelia*, from New-York for Halifax, with corn. She drove ashore half way between Sacasset Harbor and Peaked Hill cliffs, at noon, on Friday, and lies broadside on, full of water. The crew were saved.

This is probably the vessel reported as a hermaphrodite brig, as no other vessel is ashore in that vicinity.

Schooner Ashore in Lake Ontario.

OSWEGO, N. Y., Saturday, Dec. 14.

The schooner *C. G. Alvoord*, bound from Detroit to this port, with wheat, is ashore on Burlington beach, at the head of Lake Ontario.

The British Bark Echo in Distress.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., Saturday, Dec. 14.

The British bark *Echo*, Capt. MCINTOSH, of St. John's, N. B., lumber laden, was towed into the lower harbor this afternoon in distress.

The Hawaiian Reciprocity Treaty—Memorial to Congress.

SAN FRANCISCO, Saturday, Dec. 14.

The Chamber of Commerce adopted the Committee report favorable to the ratification of the Hawaiian Reciprocity Treaty. They also adopted the following memorial to Congress:

"That in their opinion the commercial interests of the Pacific coast would be largely promoted by the ratification of the Reciprocity treaty between the United States and the Hawaiian Islands. A public consideration having referred to the future expansion and security of our national commerce on the Pacific Ocean demands its ratification no less imperatively."

The Union Legislature nominated Judge BROWN, Contra Costa, United States Senator, and indorsed Gen. GRANT for the next Presidency.

Bursting of a Reservoir in Massachusetts—Great Damage to a Railroad.

WORCESTER, Mass., Saturday, Dec. 14.

The large reservoir in Douglass gave way last night, washing away one hundred feet or more of the Boston, Hartford and Erie Railroad track and embankment. It was discovered by a man who was roused from his sleep by his house floating down stream. He managed to save himself and family and awakened the neighborhood, fortunately, before the train arrived, which was due at 5 o'clock A. M., thus preventing a serious accident.

The paint shop of the Worcester and Nashua Railroad, in this city, was fired last night. The damage was slight.

A barn on East Central-street was burned early this morning, with two horses, harness, &c. Loss about $800.

Defective Character of the Georgia Relief Ordinance.

ATLANTA, Ga., Saturday, Dec. 14.

In apparent defiance of the Relief Ordinance, adopted on Thursday last by the Convention, the Sheriff levied here to-day on a store and closed it. Gen. POPE was appealed to, and replied he could not intervene, the ordinance merely saying levies shall be suspended, but not preventing their being made. The construction is sustained by the bar, and under it the ordinance defeats its own end.

Sentence of Charles D. Fuller, the Bank Robber.

HARTFORD, Conn., Saturday, Dec. 14.

CHARLES D. FULLER, convicted at the March term of the Superior Court of this city of the theft of $20,000 in bonds, the property of LOYAL WILCOX, which was deposited in the vault of the Hartford Bank, where FULLER was Teller, was to-day brought into the Superior Court and sentenced by Judge PARDEE to confinement in the State Prison for five years. He still protests his innocence.

Conflict Between the Negroes and Civil Authorities in Georgia.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Saturday, Dec. 14.

The *Republican* reports the occurrence of a collision between a party of negroes and the civil authorities at Elberton, Elbert County, in which the Sheriff, GEORGE ALLEN, was killed, and several others, written of blacks, were wounded. The difficulty originated at a ball.

Democratic Caucus for Senator of California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, Dec. 13.

The Democratic Legislative caucus has taken sixteen ballots for United States Senator, and adjourned without making a selection. JOHN NUGENT will probably be taken up as a compromise candidate to-morrow night.

Death of Hon. Stephen M. Weld.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 14.

Hon. STEPHEN M. WELD, one of our most prominent citizens, died suddenly last night at his residence in Jamaica Plains.

Fire at Bethany College.

LA GRANGE, Ohio, Saturday, Dec. 14.

The principal boarding-house of the Bethany College, in Bethany, West Virginia, was burned this morning. The loss is $15,000 and the insurance $10,000. The fire originated from a defect in a flue.

Gen. Grant for President—Meeting in Boston.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 14.

A meeting is to be held in Faneuil Hall next Wednesday night, to favor the nomination of Gen. GRANT for the next Presidency.

Mr. THOMAS LEE, a well-known merchant here, died to-day, aged 88 years.

A Savannah Editor Beaten.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Saturday, Dec. 14.

JOHN E. HAYES, the editor of the *Republican*, was attacked by CHARLES H. HOPKINS this evening. HAYES was badly, but not dangerously, hurt by a blow on the head from a loaded whip.

Paper Mill in Orange, N. J., Burned.

NEWARK, N. J., Saturday, Dec. 14.

A. L. DUNNELL'S wrapping paper mill, between South Orange and Milburn, was destroyed by fire last night. Loss said to be $20,000; it was partly insured.

Heavy Robbery in Boston.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 14.

The store of GRINNELL & EMMES, on Elm-street, was robbed on Thursday night of $10,000 worth of furs.

FOREIGN NEWS BY MAIL.

ARRIVAL OF THE BREMEN STEAMSHIP UNION.

The steamship *Union*, from Bremen Nov. 30, and Southampton Dec. 3, arrived at this port yesterday, with two days' later advices than were received by the *Russia*.

The Fenian excitement continued in England, and demonstrations of sympathy for the Manchester dead were of constant occurrence.

The London *Daily News* says that as the Prince Imperial suffers from cold weather, it is probable he will accompany the Empress to Nice.

A dispatch from Berne says that the Federal Council have resolved to accept the invitation of France to a conference on the Roman question, its acceptance being accompanied by an explanation of the views of Switzerland on the subject.

The *Italia* says that the preliminaries for GARIBALDI'S trial are still in progress. The General has undertaken to appear when called upon, and, in the meantime, not to leave Caprera.

The Italian Government has declined to renew the treaty with Austria for the mutual extradition of deserters. The Austrian Government has consequently given instructions to the proper authorities to allow Italian deserters to sojourn in the Austrian territories as long as they obey the law.

Prayers have been ordered to be said in all the churches until April next, for the Empress of Austria, who is *enceinte*.

The debate upon the revised draft of the Constitution continues in the Reichsrath.

The Emperor of Austria will proceed to Trieste to receive the remains of his brother MAXIMILIAN.

A Constantinople dispatch sets forth that the rumor is current that Russia asserts the treaty of Paris to have been virtually annulled by the identical declaration of Russia, France, Prussia and Italy. The Sultan persists in seeing no one.

FENIANISM IN ENGLAND.

Sympathy for the Manchester Dead—Demonstrations, Speeches and Resolutions—The Rights of Citizens—British Sentiment.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON, Wednesday, Nov. 27, 1867.

The execution of the three Fenians in Manchester has been followed by no burning of cities, no retaliation upon individuals, no act of revenge. In Dublin the only demonstration was the draping of the *Irishman* in the morning, and the reading of the names of the three "murderers," and asking for the prayers of the congregation for the repose of their souls, in every Roman Catholic chapel. The Irish papers of liberal or national politics do not hesitate to condemn the execution of the Fenians. The *Evening Post* compares the treatment of Ireland with that of Poland. The *Freeman's Journal*, perhaps the most influential journal in Ireland, compares ALLEN and his companions to ALGERNON SIDNEY and Lord WILLIAM RUSSELL. The *Cork Examiner* says the Irish people will believe that three of their fellow-countrymen "were offered up on the scaffold as a sacrifice to the spirit of hatred and brutal revenge," and adds: "We, at least, shall not attempt to persuade them to accept injustice as one of the inevitable decrees of Providence." The *Times* correspondent fears that "the reckless perseverance with which a portion of the press endeavors to embitter their national prejudices and represent the executions as a cruel and unjustifiable tragedy may produce a crop of future mischief."

Cork seems the centre of the boldest manifestations of Fenian sympathy. At the doors of the churches were displayed black-bordered placards, with the words, "Of your charity, pray for the repose of the murdered patriots, ALLEN, O'BRIEN and LARKIN. God save Ireland!" Men and women wore mourning badges and green rosettes. Several vessels in the river had their flags at half mast. There were also funeral processions. But generally the country has been quiet. The people of Ireland have been so accustomed to the fact or the tradition of men being hanged, or sent to penal servitude for ultimating the national hatred of British rule in some act of treason, that they look upon it as a thing of course, and not the worst evil that could befall them. There is not probably one relative of the three men hanged on Saturday who would not feel more sorrow and disgrace were he now living—a well-paid Government informer.

In England the case has been different. The funeral processions on Sunday, the speeches in Hyde Park, and the religious exercises of the thousands who assembled by a spontaneous impulse to celebrate the obsequies of the men who died the day before on the gallows, were, in this age and country, unprecedented, and they have made a deep impression on the public mind. In the gloom of a November fog the people assembled on Clerkenwell-green, and formed a procession four abreast, headed by a black banner and a fife and drum band. Not only men, but women in great numbers, decently dressed and of respectable appearance, walked in the procession. In a London fog—a thick darkness like night, which gave it a ghastly appearance, the procession moved with wailing fifes and muffled drums down to Fleet-street, and through the Strand, Trafalgar-square, Pall-mall, Piccadilly, to Hyde Park, the band playing the *Adeste Fideles* and *Dead March in Saul* alternately. Another smaller procession marched through Holborn to Oxford-street. Great numbers of people assembled to see the strange sight, and so many followed that the number gathered in the Park was estimated by one journal at 20,000.

In the Park the scene was more extraordinary and more impressive than even the ghostly procession through the fog-darkened streets of London. Mr. FINLAN delivered his funeral oration. Several other persons made speeches full of sympathy with the cause of Ireland, and of bitter condemnation of the Government and the aristocracy. There was speaking at three different places. Resolutions were passed condemning the Government, and thanking the Marchioness of Queensberry for her charity to the families of the executed Fenians. And then came forth the unmistakably National and religious character of the demonstration. Hundreds, perhaps thousands of persons, as by one common impulse, Catholics and those who are called Protestants, but few of whom are supposed to have any religion, knelt together, men and women, on the cold wet grass, and joined in the solemn prayers for the dead of the Catholic funeral service—a man reading from the book, and the whole assembly joining in the responses. Tears fell like rain, not only from the kneeling women and men, but from many who came as unsympathizing spectators.

From the beginning to the end of this extraordinary manifestation, there was not the least disorder. The very roughs of London either kept away or kept quiet. No opposition was made by the Police, and where they interfered at all on the line of march, it was to protect the procession. Similar demonstrations, though on a smaller scale, were made at Birmingham and Manchester.

Mr. FINLAN, who is a member of the Council of the Reform League, made the formal funeral oration in Hyde Park. He said:

"The lives of Irishmen were yesterday sacrificed in Manchester for endeavoring to serve a glorious and just cause. This procession was a recognition of the worth of the poor men yesterday sacrificed, and the justice of their cause. That blood of theirs—unjustly and unnecessarily shed—went to cement and consolidate the sympathies and hearts of Englishmen, Irishmen and Scotchmen—[cheers]—in one holy, invicible bond dedicated to the regeneration of these islands afflicted by class despotism and desecrated by class slavery. Should that blood bring about such an issue, the memory of ALLEN, GOULD and LARKIN would be enthroned forever in the hearts of the people, and they would be regarded in the future as the deliverers of the past were regarded at present."

While Mr. FINLAN was delivering the funeral discourse from which I have culled a few characteristic sentences, at another meeting of several thousands, held at a short distance, Mr. MOTE moved the resolution:

"That this meeting condemns the execution of Messrs. ALLEN, LARKIN and GOULD, at Manchester, yesterday morning, as a judicial murder by Her Majesty's Government—[great cheering]—and we express our sympathy with the relatives of the murdered."

"Not only Roman Catholics," he said, "but members of every religious denomination—not only one nationality, but all nationalities, not only the lower and middle classes, but many of the 'upper ten thousand,' were against the execution, but all to no purpose, as the Government were intent upon hanging. [Groans and cries of 'Shame.'] It was a shame, and he believed that the news of the execution had been cabled across the Atlantic to their Irish brothers in America. [Great cheering.] What would the effect of the news be there? [Loud cheers and cries of 'We know.'] England was now the only country he might say that killed for political offences. This shameful act had been that of a Tory Government and of a Whig party as well." [Groans.]

He censured Mr. GLADSTONE and Earl RUSSELL for not using their influence to prevent the execution, as a word from either of them would have changed the resolution of the Government; but they were all alike aristocrats, he said, and the people had no justice to expect of any of them.

On Sunday evening Mr. FINLAN addressed a meeting of about 2,000 persons, at Clerkenwell, at which he said:

"Looking at the execution of the men as a matter of policy, the Government had committed a great blunder, and a blunder in a Government is a crime. The sacrifice of those men had done more to ex end Fenianism than could have been effected by any other means. He believed their deaths would do more to cement and consolidate the English and Irish workmen together than could have been effected by years of agitation."

But it is inconceivable to me how any one could have hoped that the Government would have done otherwise than it has done. There was a costly Special Commission, a formidable military force, and twenty six men indicted for murder. With all this, only five were convicted, and the conviction of one of these was an admitted blunder. The guilt of another was so doubtful that he was respited. Having yielded so much it could not have been reasonably expected that the Government could give up everything. Had any one but a policeman been shot there might have been mercy. Had not police murders become so frequent this case might have been overlooked. The Queen's speech had to be carried out. It said, in almost so many words, "Those men must be hanged," and they were hanged accordingly, and "Remember ALLEN!" may, in consequence, become a watchword for Ireland in future agitations and rebellions.

I have not believed in the wild threats sent in anonymous letters to the newspapers. The real danger lies in the fact that Fenianism exists as a secret military organization. The rescue of KELLY and DACEY was ordered, and carried out as ordered. There can be little doubt that it is in the power of the Fenian leaders to throw upon any point in England some hundreds, possibly thousands, of resolute men, who will obey their orders, whatever they may be. We may have buildings blown up as in Rome; some Fenian Garibaldi may gather his followers on some English Monte Rotondo; but if he is defeated and a prisoner, I warn him that he will not be treated like GARIBALDI. Nobles and ladies will not fly to minister to his comforts, nor two Professors rush to prescribe for him when ill. The Fenian chief in England or Ireland must expect a solitary cell, penal servitude or the gallows. In Ireland, the American or other foreigner, if only suspected of Fenian proclivities, is cast into prison, where he may lie, as some have, a year and a half, without even an examination before a magistrate—kept on prison fare, which is in Ireland of the most meagre, and subjected to the same prison discipline as felons. For any lack of respect to a warder, solitary confinement on bread and water; for approaching nearer than a specified distance of, or turning the head to look at, another prisoner, the same punishment. This is for merely suspected persons, held under the warrant of the Lord-Lieutenant. If any of my countrymen get into trouble, I have warned them. And let adopted citizens remember that their adoption counts for nothing over here. American naturalization papers are of less value than Confederate currency. That is kept as a curiosity. The only curiosity about the adopted citizen's *magna charta* is that he should have been green enough to think England has given up her right to the allegiance of a born subject of the crown. St. Paul could say, "I am a Roman citizen; I appeal to CÆSAR." CICERO could thunder against VERRES the fatal charge that he he had been deaf to the cry, "I am a citizen of Rome!" Wherever a man was born, once adopted a citizen of Rome, her arms, her eagles, her laws were his protection. With the American citizen by adoption it is another matter, and the Know-Nothings were, after all, in the right of it. A man cannot be at the same time an American citizen and a British subject. But every man born in these Islands is and ever must be a subject of the British crown. *Ergo*, no such man can be an American citizen. Q. E. D. There is the syllogism and silly fact, formally stated. It may not be a *casus belli*, but it is an evident fraud upon every man who has been induced to take false oaths, and to pay money for his naturalization papers. I see the fun now of English authors declaring their intentions to become American citizens, in order to secure American copyrights. They knew it was a farce and an impossibility, and so renounced their allegiance to the sovereign of Great Britain and Ireland, and kissed the book with a conscious void of offence toward both Queen VICTORIA and Uncle Sam.

The excitement caused by the execution in Manchester has made people forget the conviction and sentence of the three Irish American Fenians at Dublin. They were very plucky and very insolent, especially Gen. HALPIN. In spite of constant interruptions from the Court he said his say of the British Government, and seemed to think that a few years of penal servitude was not too high a price to pay for the privilege of freeing his mind. Finally he said something about the Prince of Wales of so horrible and outrageous a character that the London reporters, aghast at such blasphemy, refused to write down the words, while the Judge reduced him to silence. The reticence of the press naturally set every one to guessing what the terrible words could be, and naturally their surmises went quite beyond Gen. HALPIN's insinuation. The Irish papers, I find, have been less discreet or squeamish, and more wise. There is no benefit in such suppressions. What HALPIN said was:

"The Crown officers have laid great stress upon the fact that I traveled under different names; therefore, I was guilty of a great crime. I have precedents for it when I read in the papers that some Continental monarchs travel under assumed names, and I hear that the Prince of Wales also does so when he thinks proper to go to the London brothels."

The Chief Baron said: "I cannot allow this. I must call upon the other prisoners to proceed."

"HALPIN was then removed to the rear of the dock, and he made no further attempt to address the Court. His observations seemed to afford the other prisoners a great deal of amusement, and WARREN, in particular, laughed heartily."

That is very bad and very scandalous, but not so bad or so scandalous as the surmises of a badly-disposed and scandal-loving public.

Some of the leading English papers, notably the *Saturday Review* and *Pall Mall Gazette*, are urgently demanding more government, and stronger measures of repression and terror. England is in a state of anarchy. Lawless violence increases with fearful rapidity. The mob has been allowed to have its own way until it feels its power. The small bodies of unarmed police are no match for the dangerous classes in a city of three millions of inhabitants. A hundred roughs sweep through a street and knock down and rob every man worth robbing. Knives and pistols are becoming as common as they once were rare in England.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* has an entire page on the excellent effects of hanging men as a means of terror. But when men were hanged every week and by the score at a time for theft, it did not stop stealing. Then, if terror is to be the remedy for crime, why stop at hanging? Burning alive or breaking on the wheel would be more terrible, and therefore more efficacious to deter from crime. But the chance of death does not deter people from doing whatever they wish to do. Some hundreds are killed yearly in the streets of London, but people still walk in them. Hundreds, again, are killed in coal-mines, railways and by shipwrecks, but people still work in mines and travel by land and sea. They are crazy to go on Abyssinian expeditions, to climb Alpine heights, to hunt lions and elephants, and engage in other dangerous enterprises.

The publication in *Tinsely's Magazine*, edited by Mr. EDMOND YATES, who held a short time since, and I believe, still holds a post under Government, of a frank and bold exposition of Fenianism, by an American Fenian, shows that the Fenians are ready, or nearly ready, to look at the question from a more westerly point of view than they have heretofore considered it. In this article all reforms for Ireland are put aside as worthless. What the Irish want is not such reforms as a British Parliament may be disposed to give them. They want only one thing—and that is, Ireland. They prefer a bad Government of their own to the best that England can bestow. "Ireland for the Irish" covers the whole ground of debate. The writer believes they will get it. Ireland may as well be independent as Belgium, and is further from England than that country is from France. Ireland is to England what Venetia was to Austria, with the aggravation of the religious question. England holds Ireland as Turkey held Greece, as Russia holds Poland Austria has given legislative independence to Hungary, and grown strong by the act. So might England do with respect to Ireland. She has to choose between a powerful ally or a conquered province, every ready to revolt, and always a thorn in her side, and a source of weakness and danger.

But the great difficulty with England, as I have before remarked, lies in Ireland itself. It is the difficulty which may be found in Abyssinia—that of getting out of it. The soil of Ireland has been confiscated and bestowed upon the partisans of England. The church revenues have been seized and given to a small minority of the population. The North of Ireland has been colonized by fanatical Protestant supporters of the English rule. How can all these be abandoned to the rule of the majority? They constitute the British garrison in Ireland, and it is one that cannot easily be withdrawn. Therefore it is that one-fifth of the people of Ireland, with the aid of England, rule the other four-fifths, and the English can see no way out of the difficulty. They have a world by the ear, and must hold on as long as they are able. But the difficulty is alarming. If Abyssinia had a seaport, or even a clever Foreign Minister to commission a single *Alabama*, you would see; for there is no doubt that King THEODORE is a belligerent.

Arrests continue to be made in England and Ireland. An American-looking gentleman calling himself WATERS, but supposed to be Col. BURKE, has been arrested in Ireland, while another, also taken for BURKE, is held under remand in London. CONDON, *alias* Shore, respited at Manchester, has been brought to Milbank Prison, London, to enter upon penal servitude for life. He was not guilty enough, or not certainly enough guilty, to be hanged, but quite enough for a life-time of penal servitude.

MONADNOCK.

FRENCH DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS.

Expose of Political Affairs.

From the Livre Bleu.

The year 1866 had been marked by great political and military events. It is to the honor of our age that it places itself in the foremost ranks of the pacific conquests of progress and of civilization, and in that sense the year 1867 will leave a lasting souvenir.

The Emperor, before an assembly unique in the annals of history, has there, with a just pride and a legitimate satisfaction, been enabled to utter the following memorable words:

"From all points of the earth the representatives of the arts and industry have eagerly crowded here, and it can be said that populations and Kings came to honor the efforts of labor, and by their presence to crown them by an idea of peace and conciliation."

Such in part was the character of the great movement which we have witnessed. The populations have learned to know themselves better in the vast competition of all the most noble emulations, and the impressions which they have found there will surely cause superannuated prejudices to be succeeded by sentiments of mutual sympathy.

It is not in vain either, that so many illustrious guests will have succeeded each other among us. The personal intercourse which their sojourn inaugurated or confirmed, is a new and precious pledge in favor of the peace of the world. The assemblage of so many Sovereigns and statesmen, has given to our diplomacy a precious assistance, in the work of pacification which is everywhere the principal object of our efforts.

During the last session the great bodies of the State received communication of the documents relative to the affairs of Luxemburg, as well as of the international act which definitively settled it. We have to revert to that incident only for the purpose of testifying to the entire execution of the treaty of London. The citadel of Luxemburg has been evacuated by the Prussian troops.

Each day witnessed the disappearance of the formidable fortifications which for so many years menaced our frontier, and the Grand Duchy, henceforward disengaged, like Limburg, from the ties by which it had been connected since 1815, with the Germanic Confederation, has entered completely into the new conditions of independence which its neutrality secures to it. The Emperor's Government had not hesitated to abide by the decision of the European Powers in a question which could effect general tranquility. It has had to give the most complete approbation to the justice which they paid to its intentions, and it has had to congratulate itself on the initiative by which, in a secondary matter, it has prepared the reëstablishment of the European concert, the only real basis for the maintenance of peace.

[The portion of this document which relates to Italian affairs has already been published in the columns of the TIMES.]

The state of affairs in the East equally enjoined on us the necessity of appealing to the assistance of the other Cabinets to work out the removal of the difficulties which, in 1866, had arisen in the Turkish Empire, and which were aggravated by the reaction of the great events which had taken place in the West. If, in fact, we revert to a period of a year preceding, we see the Government of the Sultan still engaged in delicate negotiations with the United Principalities, and compelled to make headway against the embarrassments which beset him on the side of Syria, Crete, Servia, and Greece. These complications, unfortunately, absorbed the greatest part of the attention that it had desired to bestow exclusively on the internal reforms, submitted for the last ten years to regrettable postponements and reclaimed by public opinion with a conviction that contributed to support it in preserving counsels.

The engagements taken by the Porte toward Europe in 1856, and the remembrance of the services which we rendered it, certainly gave us the right to speak and to be heard. We have never ceased to indicate as the essential basis of these reforms the definitive admission of all the subjects of the Empire to a real equality as well as their emancipation by the proper organization of justice of the Administration and of public instruction. Persuaded that in the East, notwithstanding the apparent antagonism of races, the interests of all are common, animated, moreover, by the sentiments of equity and high impartiality which regulates all its proceedings, the French Government did not think that its solicitude should limit itself to provoke an amelioration of the condition of the Christians; it did not believe that it deviated from its secular traditions in repeating that what would be done for all, would at the same time benefit each the most. It therefore particularly insisted that the Government of the Sultan should neglect nothing that might tend to develop the prosperity of the Mussulman populations coincidently with that of the other populations of Turkey, and to make them participate in the rapid progress which the Christian races are destined to realize under the new *régime*.

Notable changes, we hope, are on the eve of accomplishment in economical and administrative order. A commission has been directed to prepare, by seeking them in our own institutions, the elements of a civil and commercial legislation which, while respecting religious traditions and social manners, will henceforth assure to transactions of every sort the guarantees which the native inhabitants do not claim less earnestly than foreigners. The reorganization of the tribunals of every degree has already been discussed and fixed in several points. Correlative measures are prepared in administrative order. But it is, above all things, important to raise to the level of the new institutions the men who are destined to apply them. The attention of the Government should therefore be directed to the necessity of organizing public instruction at Constantinople, and the Minister of the Sultan have already, with our aid, laid the basis of a great centre of instruction, the direction and the personnel of which will be demanded from Europe. Other projects have for aim the construction of the roads and railways so necessary to the development of the natural wealth which the soil of the Empire contains. Comprehending in short, that reduced to its own efforts it would be powerless to appeal to the activity and capital of the West. A recent law has just consecrated and regulated the right of foreigners to acquire and possess real estate in Turkey. The conditions attached to the exercise of this right seem to solve in a satisfactory manner all the difficulties which have so long postponed and may still retard the application of one of the principal dispositions of the firman of 1856.

All the efforts made by the Ottoman Government to realize these improvements would, however, have remained sterile if it had not been able to disengage itself from the difficulties of another order, which, as we have already said, reclaimed all its attention. We have not ceased, inspired by the most elevated considerations, to lend it the assistance of our advice.

Experience has fully justified the usefulness of the concessions accorded to the United Principalities. Far from affecting injuriously the rights of the Sultan, the combination which we have constantly recommended and which has at last satisfied the desires so often expressed, has only had the effect of attaching more sincerely to the Turkish Empire the Roumanian population. With the exception of the regrettable facts of intolerance which have occurred in Moldavia, and against which we have protested, tranquility has not ceased to reign in Roumania.

When Servia, also relying on the concessions accorded to the Principalities, renewed in its turn demands in regard to the justice of which we had already declared our sentiments in 1862, we did not hesitate to support its claims with the Ottoman Government. The Porte understood that it would perform an act of wise policy in renouncing the possession of the fortified which it still held on the Servian territory, and which, without any real importance in a strategical point of view, were a perpetual subject of coldness and a permanent cause of the difficulties between the Sovereign Court and the Principality. The Turkish troops have evacuated the fortress of Belgrade, confided henceforth to the guardianship of the Servian people, and the spirit of conciliation which the Government of the Sultan has shown in this matter cannot be too highly praised. The Porte, however, has not been long in benefiting by the results of this wise resolution. In doing justice to the susceptibilities of a proud and energetic nation it has averted the agitation which might have spread in European Turkey.

Our entirely friendly intervention did not the less tend to maintain between Turkey and Montenegro the good relations inaugurated by the protocol signed at Constantinople on the 26th of October, 1866, and which fresh conflicts on the frontiers had threatened to compromise. The moderation which the Porte had given proof of in these last incidents imparted a fresh force to the advice which we had tendered at Cettinté; Prince NICHOLAS, we have reason to hope, will know how to resist the incitements of the party who lately still endeavored to draw him into a path as dangerous to himself as to the country.

Our efforts have not, unfortunately, been crowned with a success as complete in the long negotiations to which the affairs of Crete have given rise. In declaring, in the month of Februry last, the increasing gravity of the events in Candia, we expressed all the doubts that we felt as to the efficacy of the measures adopted for the pacification of the island. The circumstances even under which they were effected, by the care of the Commissioner General of the Porte, the dispatch of a deputation to Constantinople, charged to explain the wishes of the country, took from this manifestation the character with which it had been pretended to invest it. Named by Turkish authority, and disavowed in advance by the Greek populations, the Candiot delegates could not be considered as invested with a real mandate. In the interest even of the Ottoman Government, we desired that the proof should be renewed on the conditions which would not permit its sincerity to be again suspected. In accord with the Courts of Vienna, Berlin, St. Petersburgh and Florence, the Government of the Emperor demanded that the Cretan population should be seriously consulted.

These suggestions were not welcomed. Invested with the command of the Imperial troops in Crete, OMAR PASHA received orders to act with vigor and to put an end to a movement which the Ministers of the Sultan daily represented as approaching its term. The energy of the resistance proportioned itself to that of the repression, and in the beginning of June the insurrection had extended to the entire island. Justly moved by a struggle which had assumed the most afflicting character, the greater part of the Powers who had signed the Treaty of Paris agreed to attempt at Constantinople a fresh and more pressing effort. The representatives of France, Austria, Prussia, Russia and Italy remitted to the Ottoman Government a note, the consideration of which the Cabinet of London did not refuse to recommend officially. The guaranteeing Courts engaged the Porte to suspend hostilities and to proceed in Crete to an inquiry in which their delegates would assist, but the initiative of which was reserved for the Government of the Sultan. In subordinating the measures that were suggested to it to preliminary conditions which rendered their execution impossible, the Porte thus time again replied by an implicit refusal to the counsels which a far-seeing sympathy had dictated to us.

We were unable to stop the effusion of blood. It was our duty as far as lay in our power to prevent the consequences of the war becoming too afflicting for humanity. The commander of our naval station in the Levant received orders to remain in the seas of Candia and to collect there the unoffensive victims of the war. The Ottoman Government—we owe it this justice—opposed no material obstacle to the accomplishment of this mission in which most of the other Powers participated.

This task fulfilled, and in presence of the definitive attitude of the Turkish Government, there remained nothing more for us to do than to disengage our responsibility and resume our entire liberty of appreciation for the future. Such was the object of a declaration remitted in the last days of October by the Ambassador of His Majesty at Constantinople, and by the representatives of St. Petersburgh, Berlin and Florence. The Ottoman Government having declined the friendly councils that we had given it in all the phases of the Cretan question, we had not to lend our moral support to the programme, the realization of which it is pursuing in the Island of Candia. We shall do nothing, however, to prevent the success of efforts on the contrary, we should be glad to be in a position to hope that it would succeed by the course that it has adopted in restoring peace to a province that has been so cruelly tried.

The most profound tranquillity has not ceased to reign in the Lebanon. The populations of the mountain, of every religious denomination, render the fullest justice to the administration of DAOUD PACHA. Protected against themselves by the impartial authority of a single Power, they unlearn in the labors of peace the secular hatreds which have too often divided them.

The works of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem are being pursued with activity, and the new sanctuary will be opened in a few months to the pilgrims who hasten from all points of the Christian world to assist at the Easter festivities.

If the Government of the Emperor

CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE STORY OF A CHIGNON.

From Tinsley's Magazine.

"Dying—is this dying? is this death?"
On her fading brow the close lip-pressure,
On her blue eyes wistful vacantness,
On her white mouth parted without breath,
Burning tears and sobs that scantly measure
Half the mourner's anguish answer—"Yes."
With its shadow fan her lying there;
Let the moonbeam rest upon her pillow,
And the night-wind lift the golden hair.

Only little Bertha, only she—
Whom the Swabian village loved to honor,
She whom two short months should hail a bride,
Cheats the maidens of their revelry,
Breaks a heart whose life-hope hung upon her
For a green grave on the mountain side.
June shall come, but not the festal dances,
Not the flower-crown, and the lover's glances
At the glory of the golden hair.

Hushed the hamlet for the funeral day;
Mute the mourners round the cottage-portals
Till the mother in bereavement bowed,
And the loved lost face is hid away,
Farewell-kissed and wreathed with pale *immortelles*
Then, unheeded of the revrent crowd,
Steals some hireling for the day's sad burden,
Creeps with felon footfall on the stair,
Lifts the facecloth, and for paltry guerdon
Robs the dear head of its golden hair.

June is bright beyond the northern sea,
Bright on hill and wood, on lawn and river,
Tower and roof and echoing city street,
Where the tide of costliest life flows free,
And the proud world's proudest straw forever
Serf-like homage under Beauty's feet.
Looms of Lyons lovingly enfold her,
Pearl of Ind and tropic plumage rare,
And the sunlight lingers on her shoulder,
Prisoned in the pride or golden hair.

O'er the city wanes the Summer noon.—
Just such twilight should have come to soften
Bertha's bridal-feast beneath the vine;
Here our darlings dance to lordlier tune,
No such vision on their hearts as often,
Often, stern and ghastly, saddens mine.
Rich in charm that claims our love as duty,
Earth's most favored, ye might surely spare
Pilfered dower of a dead girl's beauty,
Poor pretension of the golden hair.

Leave barbaric warriors such a spoil!
Or each toilet bring my legend o'er you,
Each assumption of the charnel's wreck:
Then nerve all your spirits to the foil
Of the peasant coffined white before you,
Of her death damp on your warm white neck!
Ah! some night of revelry or pleasance,
While you dream before your mirror there,
What if you should see a wan wild Presence
Come to claim its wealth of golden hair?

PEARSON, THE LABORER.

From the Sixpenny Magazine.

I.

Miles away from the great metropolis—where the now seldom-traversed coach-road to Portsmouth gently ascends the long range of hills dividing Surrey from Sussex—the eye ranges over a scene wild, waste, and yet beautiful. Acres and acres of land, never yet brought into cultivation, but left to their natural growth of heather and the juicy whortleberry are alone visible; except where, in the distance, a few clumps of trees, or the spire of a barn-like church marks the locale of a village. But a weary stretch of the barren moorland lies between the looker-on and these oases; and few care to quit the beaten track and learn in what aspects life presents itself in these isolated spots. Occasionally a railway touches upon them, and then, if the land be good and the farmers enterprising, a small station—tenanted by a forlorn clerk and misanthropical porter—is erected, and the produce of the farms carried to the London markets. But the railway traffic is principally confined to such goods as wagon loads of carrots, tons of hay, and potatoes, while passengers are few and far between.

To one of these out-of-the-world villages, on an afternoon in Spring—not wet, cold and gusty, as the capricious season will sometimes be to its close—a young female in deep mourning took a ticket by the 5:30 train from Waterloo. The dingy third-class carriage was nearly full when she entered it, and a party of soldiers on their way back to camp, were smoking furiously, despite railway regulations, in which they were emulated by some workmen *en route* for a country job. The civilians and military had fraternized already, and were talking loudly, in language not of the choicest, to the intense amusement of a couple of silly giggling women, nothing loath to make their acquaintance. But the new-comer, with that self-possession and quiet dignity which is instantly recognized, even by the rudest, passed on to a distant corner, where a respectfully-dressed young man, engrossed in a book, civilly made way for her to seat herself.

A little while, and the noisest of the party were gone. The soldiers, with many a hearty good by, had leaped out; the workmen had gathered up their bundles and baskets of tools and stumped away, and there were none left in the carriage when it reached Halsum station save the silent couple in the farthest corner. There, though mutually strangers, both of them alighted, and both of them struck down the same narrow lane, not the one leading to the centre of the village, where the few shops, and the surgeon's house, and the principal inn were congregated; but to the upper end, near the church, and pretty parsonage, and the timbered ruinons building which, despite the clergyman's remonstrances, the wealthy farmers persisted in considering quite good enough for a school-house for laborers' children.

Not far from the church there were a few decent cottages, standing in the midst of fair-sized gardens; and at the first and best of these the young woman, who, with her brisk movements, had outwalked her fellow-pedestrian, now halted. He had been loitering to peer beneath the hedgerows, and along the banks, for the latest violets and rare orchids which sometimes rewarded his search; and when he overtook her she was parleying at the door of the cottage with the deaf woman who inhabited it, and looking distressed and surprised at the answers her queries received.

"Pearson, John Pearson? No, he don't live here now. Eh? where's he gone? Lor', child, I dunno. I'm most a stranger in these parts. But lawk, there's schoolmaster yonder," and she dropped a slight courtesy in token of his standing; "he'll tell ye. He knows better nor I do where the people lives."

The young man courteously raised his hat, and addressed his fellow-passengers for the first time, not without a little inward admiration of her trim figure and handsome, healthy face.

"Can I be of any service to you?"

"Thank you, Sir;" the pleasant, clear-toned voice had a troubled sound in it. "My father; I expected to find him here. We held this cottage for years and years!" and she gazed at it regretfully. "O, Sir, do you know where he has gone?"

"Yes. John Pearson's children attend the school. You will find your parents living at Patchet Mead."

She reiterated the words with an emphasis which the schoolmaster understood. The hovels—they deserved no better name—at Patchet Mead were ill-built, ill-ventilated, and in the Winter months the land around them was nearly always under water. The girl's eyes questioned him so anxiously that he felt constrained to try and relieve her perplexity.

"Don't make yourself uneasy. It has been a hard, a very hard Winter to many; and your father's accident—"

A cry burst from her lips, and her color began to fade. "They never told me! they never told me!"

He hastened to reassure her. "It was nothing very serious—a fall from a wheatstack at harvest; and he has quite recovered."

Her eyes began to fill. "And he has been ill; and mother helpless, with her young baby; and I never knew it!" Then, feeling ashamed that a stranger should witness her emotion, she thanked the young schoolmaster, flushed a little as she met his glance of compassionate interest, and, picking up her traveling-bag, moved on, just in time to avoid the stare of a slattern who had lounged out of her cottage to look at her. The schoolmaster walked away also, but not so quickly as to lose the information shrilly screamed into the ear of the deaf woman.

"My blessed! if that wasn't Lucy Pearson, as went away with Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, when they took that sick daughter o' theirn abroad to see what that 'd do for her. Why, 't is five year an' more since she went away; an' look at her now; just like my lady! I hardly knowed her. She might ha' stopped an' spoke to a old neighbor."

But Lucy Pearson was beyond the reach of the gossip's tongue, picking her way, as well as she could, across the ooze meadows, and shivering as much with anxiety as the damp fog, which settled heavily on the low and marshy ground. It hastened the approach of twilight, and when, directed to her father's domicile by a sallow urchin employed in filling a kettle from the ditch, she lifted the latch, the darkness within confused her. Around some fading embers on the hearth the family were gathered. John Pearson—no longer the hale, hearty man, decently clothed, and boasting of his snug hoard in the savings bank—sat, with his elbows on his knees, looking moodily into the fire. His wife, with many a low sigh and furtive glance toward him, rocked and hushed her fretful baby; and two or three fair-haired little girls huddled together to listen to a ghost story, told with evident gusto by an intelligent-looking boy of twelve, whose frost-bitten hands and feet were swathed in bandages. They all started up when the tall figure darkened the doorway, but it was only the mother's quick eye that recognized the long-absent one. Dropping the babe into the lap of the boy, she pushed the other children aside and came forward, calling, in joyful tones, to her husband,—

"Why, father, father, see! it's our Lucy, God bless her! How she have grown, to be sure!"

The mother's heart beat as warmly in the miserable cottage as our own good Queen's in her palace, and Lucy was fondly hugged and cried over ere she could salute her father, and address the hushed and timid little ones. With baby eagerly claimed and lapped beneath her soft, warm shawl, she drew the others to her knee, and tried to speak cheerfully.

"They do not know me!" she cried, as she pressed her lips to the faces shyly raised to her own. "No one remembers me but Johnnie—poor Johnnie!—and it is so dark that I can scarcely see any of you."

"No," said the mother, looking uneasily toward her husband; "we must have a light and a fire. O, John, the poor child is shivering with the cold, and she aint used to it. Can't us have a bit o' fire to warm her?"

Pearson turned away from the beseeching look with a nod, and left the cottage; but when he reached the door of the empty woodshed, he leaned against it, and groaned heavily. A loaf in the cupboard, to serve for the morning's meal, was all they had in the shape of food, and Heaven only knew where more was to be procured. Firing there was none, for every stray chip had been raked together to warm his chilled limbs when he came in from the fields an hour previously. Bitter, indeed, is that poverty which may not welcome home a beloved child! Lucy had always been so generous and thoughtful in forwarding part of her earnings, that her parents, to save her from grieving and repining, had stoically withheld the worst of their trials, and rejoiced that one, at least, of their offspring was spared the keen pangs of hunger. But now she had come to see and know for herself the depth of distress into which they had fallen, and Pearson, in his pride and natural regret, felt that he could have forborne the gladness of beholding her to have spared her the shame and grief of witnessing their changed fortunes. But he roused himself presently, and returned to the cottage with such an armful of sticks that the little ones cried out in wonder, and were only silenced by his stern "Hush!" and upraised hand.

Lucy's heart was full already; and when the blaze betrayed the pinched faces of the children, and the haggard looks of her parents, she knew not how to repress her grief; but she turned upon them a bright face and a hopeful smile, until the reason of her coming was asked. The sick child on whom she had been in attendance was dead. All that wealth and skill could devise had proved unavailing. Lucy's services were no longer required; but previous to seeking another situation, she had resolved to visit her long unseen friends; and then the tears flowed freely. She wept so long that the mother began jealously to wonder, in her own mind, if Lucy would have "took on" so had she been at home when the girl next to her in age had the fever and died. Poor woman, she did not guess how long the "coming home" had been the dream of Lucy's life, nor how a loving remembrance of that pretty home, of father's cheerful smiles as he worked in the garden, amid the gay flowerbeds; of the hum of the bees, the honeysuckle in the hedge, and the merry song of mother as she sat working in the porch, had been dwelt upon and thirsted for, in far distant and perhaps more beautiful scenes.

"She's tired out," said Pearson, with a shrewd guess at what was passing in his child's thoughts; "take her to bed, mother." Mrs. Pearson looked at him helplessly." "Take her to bed, I say!" her husband repeated; she can sleep wi' you to-night, and I'll make shift somehow."

The wife cast a doleful glance at the damp bricks, and the old sack that was carpet, hearthrug, and all; but the same sense of shame which had hitherto kept her silent made her lead her daughter away without remonstrance, and hope that, as there was a good fire, he would contrive to keep himself dry and warm. A crust off the loaf at daybreak, a draught of water from the pail at the door, and John Pearson, stiff and aching with the rheumatism which had continually tormented him since he came to Patchet Mead, plodded away to his work; and Lucy, glad to exchange the close chamber for the fresher air without, started up to see what she could do to better the condition of her family. Nothing could make a cottage at Patchet Mead fit for a dwelling-house; but it wore a cheerier aspect than it had ever assumed before when John Pearson came home to dinner, and sat down to discuss a savory stew with the zest a half-famished man brings to a meal. And Lucy stood and watched him as he ate, and nursed the baby, while her mother supplied the wants of the other children.

"You'll get away from here, father," she said, "as soon as we can hear of a better cottage; and, please God, there will be no more of these dark days. It isn't much I've saved from my wages."

"Child, how could you, when you've done so much for us?" her mother interposed.

"It isn't much I've saved," Lucy went on; "but, besides my mourning, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer gave me, when I came away, a five pound note, with kind words that were worth as much—to me, I mean," she added, smiling, and tossing the baby. "As for the money, why, it's yours, you know—all yours; and mother must have some tapes and cottons, and a sleep shop, and Johnnie will contrive to mind baby till he's well enough to go to work again."

There was a burst of thankful pleasure at this announcement, and Johnnie, forgetting his aches and pains, declared it was like a fairy story, and Lucy was the good fairy. Even Pearson, in the prospect of better times, lifted his bowed head, and smiled: but the next moment he pushed his plate away, and gazed at the uncurtained window, with a shadow creeping over his face. Johnnie hitched his chair nearer, to see what father was looking at. From the direction of the village, two men, tall, erect, and methodical, were approaching.

"I know who they are," the boy observed. "The first one 's Sergeant Smith, and t'other's the new pohceman. They've been over here before this morning."

Pearson drew his hand across his brow.

"What did they want, lad?" he asked, in a lowered tone. "What did they want, I say?"

The boy, staring innocently in his perturbed face, answered that he did not know—that he had seen them go by while his mother and Lucy were busy up stairs.

Pearson rose from his chair, but Lucy's hand was on his shoulder.

"You'll not go yet, father? You haven't heard half our plans."

But he moved towards the door as if he had not heard her. She followed him with a coaxing "O! do stay, dear father!"

He put her back with his hand, and bade her "Hark!" with such a frightened look in his eyes that his wife began to perceive that something was amiss. She hurried to his side, tremulously asking—

"O, John, what is it? What ails ye?"

He was listening intently. The steady step of the men he had seen crossing the field came nearer as she spoke; nearer still, as she stood breathlessly awaiting his reply. Did they pass the door? No! Yes; and John Pearson's eye lost its startled expression, and he could smile again.

"It's all right, you silly woman, but I'm in a hurry. Don't keep me, Lucy; I'll be home as early as I can."

The promise was only half uttered. The door had opened, and on the threshold stood the precise figure of Police-Sergeant Smith, who stepped forward as Pearson staggered back and dropped on a low bench that stood near.

II.

"I'm sorry I'm here on such an errand," quoth the police-sergeant, doffing his hat to the well-dressed Lucy. "Your servant, miss; but duty is duty, ye know, and must be carried out."

"I've done no wrong!" gasped Pearson, while the rest stood mute with terror. "Leastways, I meant no wrong."

"Don't say anything to commit yourself," said the sergeant, warningly. "You're accused of stealing two hurdles, valued at eightpence, the property of Farmer Lawson, of Patchet Farm."

"My John steal hurdles!" cried the wife, incredulously. "Who says such a cruel thing of him? What should he steal hurdles for?"

"To burn, I suppose; that's what mostly becomes of farmer's fence-poles, and fagots, and such like."

"But not with us," Mrs. Pearson replied, proudly. "Why, we ha'n't had a bit o' fire bigger than the palm of my hand since the Christmas gifts until—"

This morning, she was about to add, when Lucy's purse had replenished the woodstack; but the blaze of the preceding night, the armful of sticks procured she knew not how, flashed into her mind; and, bending over her husband, she hid her face on his shoulder.

The unhappy couple disdained to attempt any subterfuge. Pearson immediately confessed to the deed. The hurdles—half-rotten—had been lying in a corner of the field adjoining his yard for many months, and were not worth the trouble of removing. They were useless, except for the purpose to which Lucy's father, in his perplexity, had appropriated them. No one, so he argued when tempted to take them, would miss, or if missed, take the trouble to inquire what had become of them. And he leaped the low rail, which alone divided his slip of ground from the spot where they lay, little dreaming that the new policeman was exploring Patchet Mead, and watching his movements.

"But yon'il not take him to prison?" cried his wife, imploringly.

"Duty's duty, ye know, Mrs. Pearson."

"But we can pay—leastways, Lucy will—the full value of the hurdles. Don't be hard upon us, for the Lord's sake! Think what a good name we've kept in the midst of sore trials, and don't take him to prison! Lucy, Lucy, he'll die if he goes there!" she wailed, as she saw the uselessness of her appeal to the police officer.

"Be quiet, mother!" said her daughter, resolutely. "Father shall never be imprisoned, if I can prevent it. I am going to see Farmer Lawson, and arrange it with him. You'll not mind waiting till I come back?"

Sergeant Smith, after a short consultation with his satellite, consented to await her return, and snatching up her bonnet and shawl, Lucy sped away on her errand. It was one that dyed her cheek with shame, for she inherited the Pearson pride in that unblemished character they had upheld for many generations; and the poverty which had hitherto troubled her so seriously, sank into insignificance before this darker trial. By the nearest paths she went, panting with haste, until Farmer Lawson's door was reached. But Lucy came at an unlucky moment. The farmer, who was a man of great personal strength, and proud of his prowess, often made bets in the parlor of the "White Lion," when not over sober. One of these was to be decided this day, and some of his acquaintances were lunching with him, devouring the eggs and ham, and dainty fritters of the not over well-pleased mistress, and sending out the dishes very much faster than she could prepare them.

On being told that a young woman was asking to see "master," she came to the door, hot and hasty, and sharply answered that Mr. Lawson could not be seen.

"But, indeed, ma'am," said Lucy, "I must speak with him, if only for a minute."

"Must, indeed! Do you know who I am? I am Mrs. Lawson, and I don't understand young women coming here to ask for him after that fashion. Must see him, indeed! You've had your answer, so you'd better go."

Lucy was too much in earnest to be frightened away by a few snappish words; so, apologizing as humbly as she could, she began to explain her business. But not a muscle of Mrs. Lawson's visage relaxed.

"If your father's been thieving, he must abide the consequences, the same as other people. I'm surprised to hear it. I always thought the Pearsons were decent folk; but I'm too busy to stay and hear any more."

She was closing the door, despite the entreaties of the half-frantic daughter, when one of the expected guests cantered into the yard on a pretty chestnut mare. He leaped from the saddle, threw the reins to a gaping boy, and came forward, looking about him as if thoroughly cognizant of his well-knit frame, and the dark but handsome features beneath his jaunty wide-awake. A careless nod and a "how d' ye do" to the farmer's wife, and he was passing on, when Lucy's anguished looks attracted his attention.

He stopped. "Why, mistress, what's the matter, here?"

But Mr. Lawson, who did not like him, went back to her culinary duties, muttering something unintelligible; and he looked to Lucy for a reply to his inquiry.

Although years had elapsed since she last saw him, Lucy recognized him. Who was there in Halsum that did not know Martin of Martin's Holt? The gay, reckless owner of one of the finest farms in the country—first in the field at the hunt or steeple-chase—drinking, dicing and altogether living the fast life of a dissipated and irreligious man. At another time Lucy would have reddened indignantly beneath his bold glance of admiration, but now she only saw in him one who could be useful if he would, and, rapidly relating what had occurred, she besought him to procure her an interview with Farmer Lawson.

"Surely I will. Come this way."

But she shrank from encountering the farmer in the presence of his guests.

"You'd rather speak to him here, Lucy? Well, that shall be as you please. I'll make him come out; and don't spoil those pretty eyes with crying. Lawson will not be hard upon a poor devil for sixpenny-worth of old wood."

In a few minutes his promise was fulfilled; but the lowering brows of the burly farmer dashed Lucy's hopes.

"He could not interfere now," he told her, "for it was in the hands of the police. It was only the other night that his fagot-stack was pilfered. He must make an example of some one."

Then Lucy eloquently pleaded her father's excellent character—the long illness that had followed his accident, and his uncomplaining endurance of the severity of the Winter, without an appeal for relief.

The only reply evoked was an assurance that Pearson had not been alone in his sufferings; that many had been as badly off, and the poorrates were shamefully heavy. Farmers had their burdens to bear as well as the rest; besides, had not his fagot-stack been pilfered? and whose property would be safe if men were allowed to do such things unchecked?

Then Lucy produced her pont-monnaie, and offered to pay the value doubly or trebly of the hurdles, but in vain. Some one had advised him to make an example of the next lawless vagabond detected in pulling a stake from his hedges or a turnip from his fields; and Farmer Lawson felt proud of the firmness with which he was carrying out his resolve.

"I'm very sorry for you, young woman, but the law must take its course, and this is only distressing both of us for no purpose; so I wish you good day."

Martin, of Martin's Holt, who had stayed to hear the conference, good-humoredly interposed.

"Hang it, man! give way this once. 'Tisn't worth making such a fuss about! And how can you resist the pleadings of such a pretty girl? Come, say you'll not prosecute."

"No, indeed! but he shan't say so, Mr. Martin!" cried Mrs. Lawson, coming forward with a fiery face; "not for such a reason as that, anyhow! I'm ashamed of you, Mr. Martin; and as for you, hussey—"

But Lucy walked quickly away. Martin, laughing at his hostess' invectives, followed her to the gate and called her back; but she only quickened her steps, and when sure of not being seen from the house, wrung her hands and sobbed out her disappointment.

Mrs. Pearson, during Lucy's absence, had moved restlessly about the cottage, mechanically putting things in order, quieting the frightened children, and stopping ever and anon to bend over the desponding figure of her husband and whisper a word of encouragement.

"Here comes Lucy," whispered Johnnie, who had been watching the window through his tears.

"Thank God!" the mother devoutly murmured, lifting the latch with trembling hand. She had been cherishing but few fears regarding her daughter's success. Had not Lucy a well-filled purse, and would not money do everything? But the girl's despondent attitude told a different tale, and with a low moan the overwrought woman dropped on the ground. In the confusion that ensued the prisoner was hurried away, and Lucy, with the shrieking children and a dozen well-meaning but useless neighbors, scarcely missed him. But when the miserable wife and mother began to recover consciousness and ask for her husband, Lucy left her in the care of the only person who seemed trustworthy, and stole away to follow the officers and their prisoner.

It was some miles to the town where the case would be heard, and Sergeant Smith, with a proper regard for his own comfort, had conveyed his captive thither in a chaise-cart. But Lucy had to walk, and she was faint with exhaustion long before the court-house was in sight. A throng of people were coming out as she pressed forward to enter.

"Who prosecuted?" asked one of the other.

"Why Lawson's bailiff. I expect the old man himself was ashamed to come on such a paltry charge."

"And what was the defence?"

"O, he pleaded guilty, of course. The evidence was dead against him. Poor fellow, he's a decent-looking man enough!"

"And the sentence?"

"Ay, the sentence?" Lucy's heart asked, for her colorless lips refused to move.

"O, six weeks' imprisonment—that's all."

"And enough too," was the disgusting reply.

The men passed on, and Lucy slid down on the step of the door.

III.

The six weeks had passed away, and John Pearson was free. But he lost within the prison walls the little mental and bodily strength he had when he entered them, returning to Patchet Mead with signs of approaching dissolution in his face. Lucy's five pounds was fast melting away, and the courage with which she had so bravely sustained the sinking spirits of those who clung to her began to fail when she looked at her father. Perhaps those six weeks spent in the cottage at Patchet Mead had been fraught with as much misery to her as Pearson's lonely ones in the infirmary of the jail.

While her relatives, during the last few months, by slow degrees were sinking in the social scale, and becoming accustomed to the loss of the comforts that had once surrounded them, Lucy seated in the luxurious carriage of Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, or staying at the best hotels of the cities they visited, had shared in the luxuries which a well-filled purse commands everywhere. She could not reconcile herself to the unavoidable dirt and discomfort of the wretched hovel; to the unwholesome and narrow sleeping-room, where the window would not open; to the muddy water, and the coarse and scanty food. Yet all this she had to endure, besides listening to the hourly murmuring and fretting of her mother, and trying to keep the children in order. They were not wholly without friends in this season of calamity. Many visited the cottage to express their indignation at Farmer Lawson's harshness, others to condole with the wife while they condemned the husband.

Martin of Martin's Holt came also, but his ill-disguised motive—the pleasure of looking at Lucy, and whispering in her ear the coarse flattery which others had found so delightful, availed him nothing now. Always surrounded with the children, engrossed with her work and her father, Lucy was unapproachable. He might lounge against the window opposite her chair, and gossip as long as he would with Mrs. Pearson, who was pleased to tell her grievances to any one; but from busy Lucy he could never win more than a civil monosyllable. Still he came, and the neighbors tittered, and wondered whether the flaunty woman who called herself his housekeeper knew of these frequent visits, and the young schoolmaster, meeting him sometimes at the door, would flash at him a glance that revealed his annoyance at finding him there so often. But he never advanced a step with the object of his attentions, and, after the first pang of mortified vanity, Martin of Martin's Holt began to feel a sensation of respect toward the reserved and modest maiden, and to color beneath the steady glance of her eye, whenever it fell upon him. One day, making a detour to the cottage as he rode home from market, he found Lucy for the first time in tears. She started up to leave the room as he entered, but he stood before her.

"What is it, Mrs. Pearson?" he asked, and the woman, weeping loudly, told how the doctor had, in a few kindly words, warned them that Pearson's end was drawing very near.

"There's nothing before us," Mrs. Pearson concluded, "nothing before me and my little ones but the work-house; for poor Lucy there can't keep us all. I'm well nigh dazed with the sorrow!"

By a powerful effort her daughter had checked her own sobs, and resumed her work, on which the large drops kept falling from her downcast eyes.

"Hush, mother," she softly whispered; "don't be so desponding."

Martin sat down beside her. "It's the first time I've seen you lose heart."

"I have not done so now," was the grave answer.

"But what do you propose doing?" he asked.

Lucy opened her eyes a little at the serious tone of the question. "Doing my best, and leaving the rest to God. He'll not forsake us!"

"I do believe you're right!" cried Martin, in a burst of open appreciation of her gratitude. "I'm sure there's something in religion when it makes women as brave-spirited as you are! Lucy, I've never seen any one like you, never! I wish—"

He paused, but perhaps the unspoken thought was a just one. Had he known such a one as Lucy in the first years of his manhood, his course had been a different one.

Her needle began to move rapidly through the work on her knee, and her head was turned away, as if the man who kept his place beside her was already forgotten. But Martin changed his position from the chair to the table, on which he leaned so as to be able to look down into the face he thought so beautiful. It was Mrs. Pearson, however, that he addressed. "Mistress, don't fret; there's no knowing whether we may not scheme a way yet to put Pearson on his feet again.

One questioning glance, and Lucy's work went on again.

"I'm not a clever fellow at making speeches," he resumed, "except when we're all merry together at dinner; then, I suppose I can chatter as fast as the rest; but I'd like to say a word or two to Lucy here, if she'll listen."

Mrs. Pearson rose from her seat, but at her daughter's "Don't go away, mother," she stood still, hesitating between a feeling that Lucy was right in detaining her, and a fear of disobliging a rich neighbor. But Martin himself reassured her.

"No, you need not go, mistress. I can say my say before you. It won't take many words. If Lucy will agree to have me "for better for worse," as the parsons say, there's a cottage near the house that you can have; and Pearson will make a good bailiff. I want one badly enough, and I dare say I shan't grumble if there's a pound of butter or a joint of pork, or some milk for the children missing sometimes."

The girl's work dropped from her nerveless hands. What did this man mean? But he met her startled look without flinching. "What do you say, Lucy? I'm not afraid but what I'll have the best of wives, and I dare say we shall get along together."

Mrs. Pearson, whom surprise had hitherto kept silent, now started forward and clasped her arms around her daughter.

"O, Mr. Martin, God bless you, Sir! This is a joyful day! and you'll never, never repent it, though people may say she's not your equal. But we've always been decent people, though things is against us now; and Lucy's a good girl, and a clean girl, though I say it, that shouldn't. Bless ye, my darling, bless ye! I'll have a proud heart the day I see thy wedding!"

Martin laughed triumphantly. He was reaping his reward for his disinterestedness in this woman's delight.

Grasping her mother's dress to steady herself, Lucy rose, and Mrs. Pearson kissed her cold cheek fondly. "I declare, Mr. Martin, you've put her all in a tremble. It's been so unexpected-like! O dear! dear me! when I think of the misery of this very hour, and how it's all cleared away, and that I shall see my poor patient husband properly tended and brought back to life, as it were. I declare it seems too much, too much!" and the excited woman literally lifted up her voice and wept for joy.

Lucy stood looking at her in a kind of stupor. Without a word of acquiescence in her destiny, she was given over to a man whose dissolute life had been the talk of the parish for years, in whose house even now a wretched creature from whom she would have recoiled with loathing held her sway. No, no; any fate but this! Rousing herself, she turned to the well-satisfied Martin, but between him and her aching eyes floated a vision of her dying father. She put up her hands as if to drive it away, but they were caught in the hot clasp of her unwelcome lover, and he saw not the inward struggle; but drawing her to his embrace, he pressed his lips to her brow. It was the first link in the chain, and desperately freeing herself, she rushed up stairs and crept into the closet where she slept. To kneel, to wring her hands, to form resolves that nothing should induce her to accept him, and then, as she remembered all he promised, to bury her head in her hands and ardently wish that it was to her death was coming instead of to her father.

IV.

When Lucy came to her father's bedside, with every trace of emotion carefully effaced, he feebly extended his arms, and drawing her down till her head lay on his pillow, fondly stroked her hair.

"The mother's been telling me all about it, my darling," he faltered. "Martin's not good enough for ye, though he is well to do; and I know the day when I wouldn't have consented; but now—I'm fain thankful that ye'll not be left destitute all of ye when I'm gone."

"Don't speak of dying, father! Please God, you'll recover yet!"

He shook his head. "Never! and now I've lost the wish to live. May be it's a wrong feeling, but I couldn't have borne to meet even a child that knew me. I'd rather go humbly penitent to my Maker, and submit to His judgment, than stay here to be scoffed at by my fellow-creatures."

Lucy tried to evoke a more hopeful spirit, but John Pearson, though he tried to smile, was not convinced. "Well, well dear; it'll be for the best anyhow; and it'll soothe my last hour to know that my wife and the little ones won't go to the work-house."

There were moments when, half maddened at the thought of the future before her, Lucy was ready to start up, loudly proclaiming the horror that oppressed her, and her readiness to do anything—endure anything—sooner than become the wife of a profligate. No one guessed the effort it cost her to sit all through that long afternoon and evening, plying her needle, and listening to the disjointed but always cheerful talk of her happy mother. About the last to hear the report of Martin's wedding was the woman who ruled at "The Holt." She had long lost her hold on his affections, but a violent temper that no one cared to provoke, and some inward share for having wronged her, had made him put up with her presence. Now, however, she must go. Even he, with his indifference to the world's opinion, and blunted sense of right and wrong, intuitively felt that the pure Lucy must not find her at "The Holt." But the bold, reckless man as he was, he knew not how to tell her this; and it was not until, with bent brow and swelling throat, she asked the meaning of the rumor that had reached her, he dared to confess that the license was in his pocket, and Lucy's cold consent given to their immediate union.

The woman raved and threatened darkly; but Martin laughed at her threats, and for the rest offered what he had hitherto found an infallible remedy—money. It was scornfully flung at his feet; and then he whistled and walked to and fro till her fury gave place to tears, when he left her, with an assurance that if she would but be reasonable, and quit "The Holt," she should have whatever she chose to demand.

In the morning she fawned round him submissively.

"I said more than I meant last night, Martin. I know it isn't the likes of me that a rich man should marry; but don't send me away. 'The Holt's' like home to me now, and I can bake and wash, and she need never know——"

But he had the good sense to see the impossibility of such an arrangement. Finally, he bade her collect all she called her own and leave the house.

She forced a smile.

"Well, if I must, I must. I'm not a baby, to grieve for what I can't have; but I'll not go till I've put the place straight."

"Nonsense! a charwoman can do that."

But no, in this she would not be denied, and a thorough cleansing commenced, which, despite Martin's grumbling, was persisted in until the day of his wedding.

It was an unlucky omen that as he left his house, to meet Lucy at the church, this woman should be the last to cross his path. He was naturally superstitious, and the circumstance annoyed him. Speaking to her sharply, and bidding her beware that he did not find her at "The Holt" on his return, he strode past without listening to her reply.

She watched him with an evil look, until some trees concealed him from her view.

"Get away wi' myself, you said, my master, did ye? Clear out before your penniless wife comes to play the fine madame in my place. But I'm not gone yet, and it isn't to the daughter of Pearson, the laborer, that I'll gi'e ye up, brute though you've been to me!"

"Now, missus," said one of the carters, "the mare's in the chaise, and I've orders to drive ye to the town as soon as ye're ready."

With an oath, she thrust the lad aside, strode into the house, and locked herself in one of the chambers.

Meanwhile, Martin, hot and vexed at the silent opposition to his will that this woman had evinced, went quickly toward the church. Contrary to his intentions, his marriage was to take place with all the privacy that is possible in a village where every one knows, or guesses, every one's intentions. At the ceremony there would be a throng of lookers-on—for that Lucy was prepared; but she sickened at the thought of the riotous feasting with which the bridegroom proposed to celebrate the event. The awkward state of affairs at "The Holt" made him reluctantly agree to the first request Lucy had ever breathed, and it was decided that, as soon as the marriage rites were over, Martin should drive his bride to a horticultural *fête*, at which Farmer Lawson was one of the principal exhibitors, and take her home to "The Holt" in the evening. By the time he reached the lychgate, he had recovered his usual spirits, and was arranging in his own mind some hard rubs for the covetous Lawson, to whom he meant to introduce his bride.

"Eh! but he's a well-looking man," muttered one grandam to another as he passed.

Martin heard the whisper, and gaily tossed her a piece of silver to drink his health; then went slowly up the path in the churchyard, nodding to one, smiling at another, and frequently stopping to retort the jests leveled at him and raise a laugh at the expense of those who would be witty at his.

Lucy, in her well-fitting dress and mantle of white muslin, and bonnet of some transparent material, looked as graceful as a fair young bride can look; and if her cheek was a little pale, and the expression of her features pensive, who wondered at it on such an occasion?

The clergyman was at the altar, and the bridal party moves forward. In another half-hour the bells clanged forth their lustiest peal,—for was Martin of the Holt the man who would begrudge the ringers their fee?—and Lucy came forth from the church a wife.

Midst shouts and cheers they drove away, while Mrs. Pearson and Johnnie hastened home to regale the children, and relate to the expectant father how lovely Lucy looked, and how universally she was admired, and, alas! that so many should never look beyond the surface, how much she was envied her good fortune.

V.

It was quite dark when Martin, slightly flushed with the good liquor he had imbibed, rattled up to the door of his own dwelling. There were lights in many of the windows, and a bright fire in the sleeping-room, which the chilliness of the evening rendered very acceptable.

"Welcome home!" he said, as he lifted Lucy out of the vehicle, "I'm glad enough to get you here; for I thought Martha, in her good nature, meant to keep us there all night, and you looked tired to death. Come in."

Officious hands were leading the horse away, and the front door was thrown open by a gayly dressed female, who courtesied lowly to the newly wedded couple.

Martin's face grew purple with passion.

"You here still? What! you have dared!" His hand was raised to strike her, but his bride's cry of alarm checked the impulse.

With a mockery of respect the woman, who had evidently been drinking, deeply courtesied again.

"I'm truly sorry, Sir, to disobey your orders, but I couldn't leave till my work was finished. I'm an old servant, Miss Lucy Pearson—I beg pardon, Mrs. Martin, I ought to say—I'm an old servant, and the master 's got sick of seeing me about and told me to go. But I couldn't leave till I'd seen the bride and wished her joy of her husband."

The taunting tone galled Martin beyond endurance. With a terrible imprecation he sprang forward, and seizing her by the shoulders was about to thrust her from the door, but she clung to him.

"Not to-night! for God's sake, don't! I have not a place to lay my head in. Let me stay till the morning, and then I swear to you that I'll go without any more trouble."

"Not an hour! not a minute!" he vociferated, shaking her off.

She rose sullenly.

"My shawl is in the kitchen. I suppose I may fetch that?"

He nodded, and led Lucy away. She leaned heavily upon his arm, and when he had seated her in the arm-chair her head dropped back. She was faint with terror; but before his clumsy fingers had untied her bonnet, the sensation passed off, though she shook from head to foot, as if seized with ague.

Filled with remorse, Martin leaned over her until she made an effort to say that she was better; that if he would leave her for a few minutes she would be well again. But he drew a chair beside her, and sat toying with the ring he had placed on her finger.

"Lucy!" so changed was the voice that she hardly knew it, "Lucy, I've done a wrong thing in marrying you, but I never saw it till we two stood at the altar."

She raised her eyes wonderingly.

"I told you once," he went on, "that I had never seen a woman like you, and I never have; and I thought it would be a clever thing to marry such an industrious, good girl, let alone the sweet face that I liked you for. But I forgot that all the gain was on my side; that I'd nothing to give you in return."

"You have been very generous," she faltered, "But for you I should despair of my father's recovery."

"I'm giving nothing but what I can well spare; while you give yourself," he answered. "But your heart's not in the gift, Lucy!"

Her face dropped. "I'll try to be a good wife, Mr. Martin."

"I don't doubt that. It's in your nature to be good and kind, and I've no right to ask more after what you've seen to-night."

Suddenly the profligate dropped on his knees, and folded his arms on her lap, his features quivering with emotion. "Lucy, I'm ashamed of myself; I'm sick of my life. I'd give the Holt away, and take my spade on my shoulder to get you bread, if I could but put away with it what I am!"

Her best feelings moved by his evident sincerity, Lucy leaned towards him until her cheek nearly touched his forehead.

"O, if you will but think like this always—if you will but live the good life Mrs. Bennett praises in your father, I think, yes, I think, we may be—happy."

It cost her a struggle to say so much, for the sight of that miserable woman had dismayed her, and she felt afraid of the man who was humbling himself before her. She had no faith in her own influence, nor any deep and all-enduring affection for him to stimulate her into endeavors to arouse or control him when he wavered.

For some time she received no reply. At last he said emphatically, "I'll try, Lucy! I'll try!"

"Now come into the kitchen," he cried, rising as he spoke; "I saw the tray on the table, you'll be glad of a cup of tea." At the door he paused, and put his arms around her. "My little wife," he whispered, "do you know you have never kissed me? Put your lips to mine now, in token that you believe me when I say I mean to be worthy of you."

Lucy obeyed, and with a fervent God bless you!—whenever had the voice of Martin uttered a blessing before?—he released her, and led the way into the kitchen. He looked uneasily around, but no one was visible except an old woman, who was half asleep over the fire.

"Coma, Betty, stir yourself," exclaimed her master, as he put Lucy in a chair at the table. "Is the tea made?"

"Sure, Sir, Rachel made it an hour ago. Sh

man, in which he said: "I shall probably find the opportunity in one of my works of giving you a little puff," and to show that his puffs were of value, his advocate stated: "There is a restaurateur on the Boulevards who has seen the number of his customers doubled since M. PONSON DU TERRAIL had the idea, as spontaneous as it was disinterested, of making Rocambole (the hero of one of his novels) dine in his house. During the Exhibition a great number of people, particularly provincials, were anxious to eat in the room, and, if possible, at the same table as that at which the personage took a meal." Is it not strange that a writer of novels should, in the course of his works, puff particular shopkeepers, and that he should publicly make known, when occasion offers, that his puffs bring in money to the bepuffed?—*Court Journal.*

FRIENDSHIPS OF WIVES AND HUSBANDS.—It is fitting, in the next place, to say something of the disappointment and wretchedness which so many married men and women notoriously experience in their relations with each other. It may be useful to state the principal causes of this unhappiness, and to give some definite directions in the way of remedy. Absence of love, absence of reason, absence of justice, absence of taste—in other words, harshness and neglect, silliness and frivolity, vice and crime, vulgarity and slovenliness—are the leading and inevitable creators of alienation, dislike and misery in marriage. Whatever tends to increase these tends to multiply separations and divorces between those who cannot endure each other; and to multiply irritations, quarrels, sorrows and agonies between those who may endure, but cannot enjoy, each other. In marriage, the intimacy is so great and constant that the slightest friction easily becomes galling. Nowhere beside is there such need of magnanimous forbearance in one, or else of equality of worth and refinement in both. "Love does not secure happiness in marriage,—often the contrary: reason is necessary." So said the wise JEAN PAUL. He also said, "The best man joined with the worst woman has a greater hell than the best woman joined with the worst man." This is, no doubt, true as a general rule, because woman is so much more capable than man of self-abnegation, silent patience, meek submission and flexible adjustment to inevitable circumstances. Probably the women who keenly and chronically suffer from unhappy marriages are far more numerous than the kindred sufferers of the other sex. This is because they are more deeply susceptible to cruelty and indifference and to all the repulsive traits of character; are less capable of ignoring such things; have less of absorbing occupation of their own to take up their attention, and are less able to be absorbed in things beyond the personal and domestic sphere. There are unquestionably thousands of married women whose experience is made a living martyrdom by the infidelity, the tyranny, the coarseness, the general odiousness and wearisomeness of their husbands. In most cases, even where a divorce is wished, the shocking public scandal and disgrace are too much; and they wear on to the end. What misery delicate and conscientious women, of dedicated souls and polished manners, who love everything that is pure and beautiful, are compelled to undergo in their bondage to husbands, ignorant, uninteresting, ignoble, relentlessly domineering, is not to be expressed. Their best weapon in such cases, if they knew it, are gentleness, patience, persuasion, and the skillful use of every means to improve and uplift their unequal companions to their own level. The Persian poet expressed a rich truth when he wrote, "Gentleness is the salt on the table of morals." It is a tragedy that the good wife of a bad husband is so identified with him that the penalties of his offences fall on her head, often more terribly than on his. A pure woman loving a wicked man must expect to have her affections ravaged by his sins; does not the lightning drawn by the rod blast the innocent ivy entwining it? What lacerating woes the gambler, the drunkard, the forger, the adulterer, inflicts on his wife!

And yet, profound as is the misfortune, sharp as is the suffering of such, it may be doubted whether a noble, sensitive, cultivated man, with a yearning heart of softness and peace, a capacious mind full of grand aspirations, married, by some fatal chance, to a woman with a petty soul, a teasing and tyrannical temper, a mendacious and rasping tongue, whose taste is for small gossip and scandal, whose ambition is for fashionable show and noise, whose life is one incessant fret and sting;—it may be doubted if this man's lot is not severer with his ill-matched consort than hers would be with the worst husband in the world. He had better marry a vinegar-cruet than such a Tartar. When weary and seeking to rest, to be roused up by a scolding; when searching for truth, or contemplating beauty, or communing with God, or aspiring to perfection, or scheming some vast good for mankind, to be aggravated by abuse, insulted by false charges, dragged down to petty interests which he despises, and mixed up with wrongs and passions which he loathes—these degrading injuries, these wasteful vexations, are what he must endure. No wonder if he vehemently resents a treatment so incongruous with his worth. No wonder if, vexed, hurt, goaded half to madness, he gets enraged, and passionly contentions ensue, followed by painful depression and remorseful grief. No wonder if he finds it hard indeed to forget or to forgive the infliction of an evil so incomparably profound and frightful. There is, to a high-souled man, no wrong more hurtful or more difficult to pardon than to have mean motives falsely ascribed to him, to be placed by misinterpretation on a lower plane than that where he belongs. Every such experience stabs the moral source of life, and draws blood from the soul itself. Husband and wife powerfully tend to a common level and likeness. The higher must redeem and lift the unequal mate, or live in strife and misery. If the lower takes pattern after the superior one, the petty, frivolous, false, and fretful becoming magnanimous, dedicated, faithful, and serene, it is a divine triumph of grace, and the result will be full of blessedness. But otherwise a wearing unhappiness is inevitable, however carefully it be hidden, however bravely it be borne.—*From "The Friendships of Women," by Alger. In press by Roberts Brothers.*

A SAXON RING.—The rings worn by the higher classes of our Saxon ancestors during the Heptarchy were often very beautiful and of imposing form. A fine specimen of one of these has been discovered in a field on the farm of Mr. T. HORNBY, of Cattleholmes, near Driffield, in a singular manner. One of Mr. HORNBY's men was plowing, when he found a slight obstruction to the plow. On searching for the cause he found that the point of the plowshare had entered the opening of a large and valuable finger-ring. On examination, it appeared to be of massive and pure gold, and of elegant manufacture. It weighs an ounce and a quarter, and contains gold equal to five sovereigns. The face is oval, and surrounded by a band composed of small globules. Within this band the space is divided into four geometrical parts. The four upper divisions contain each an initial letter, and the cavities are filled with black enamel. The under curves contain each an ornament resembling a figure of 8, or a semi true lover's knot; The signet or design which appears to have occupied the centre is unfortunately lost, and nothing remains but the plain circular plate to which it had been pinned; a portion of the pin and the cavity in which it is inserted still remain, showing how it had been attached. The hoop or connecting band of the ring is formed of a grotesque nondescript animal's head, similar to the heads we frequently see on Saxon and Norman churches. The remainder of the band consists of lozenge-shaped ornaments and a centre-piece, on each of which is an initial letter, and the interstices are filled with black enamel. The writer is clearly of opinion that this noble ring is purely Saxon; and from its size and the rich character of the workmanship it must have in its time adorned the finger of some distinguished person, and that it is at least 1,200 years old. During the Heptarchy this district held a prominent place in the history of that important period. It was not only the abode of Saxon nobles, but of royalty itself. Driffield is reputed to have been the royal residence, and the church at Little Driffield contains the body of one of the Saxon Kings. The ring was found near the bank of a stream, have probably been lost by its owner while fishing or hunting.—*English Paper.*

THE COUNTRY STAGE.—Members of provincial companies often have a difficulty in obtaining their dues, even when the paymaster is honorably inclined. If the entertainments have been unattractive, the treasury has been hungered in vain, and when Saturday comes, lucky is he who obtains even half his nominal wages. Subordinate performers have often to be content with the merest trifle. The principal tragedian, or first low comedian, demands the full amount of his salary, which may be five-and-twenty shillings or a couple of pounds. The manager hesitates and grumbles. "Very well," returns his tormentor, "if you don't choose to pay me, I shan't appear, and you may shift for yourself." Should the manager be of what is professionally termed a "bounceable" disposition, he tries bullying, but perhaps meets his match in the artist, and ultimately, has either to give way altogether, or submit to a disadvantageous compromise. The reason of his so doing is obvious. If one or two of the leading members of the company were to strike, the theatre would remain closed on the best night of the week, whereas if a "utility gent" proves restive, the loss of his services is a matter of slight moment. But if the leading tragedian and a few others are paid *in toto*, the rest of the company must suffer. Perhaps each performer receives a trifle; more probably a suspension of payments ensues, followed, as a matter of course, by the prospect of general starvation.—*Once a Week.*

CHURCH, THE ARTIST.

From Tuckerman's Artist Life in America.

Enterprise is, indeed, a prominent characteristic of CHURCH; he has had the bravery to seek and the patience to delineate subjects heretofore scarcely recognized by art, one of whose benign missions it is to extend the enjoyment which time and space limit, and bring into mutual and congenial acquaintance the most widely separated glories of the universe. "It is but a very small portion of the earth's surface," says LESLIE, "that has been cultivated, so to speak, by the landscape painter, because, indeed, all art has been confined within a narrow geographical limit. The few transcripts that have been brought to Europe from distant lands, are from the hands of amateurs or inferior painters, who have been unable to express the truth of atmosphere, the greatest difficulty as it is the most important of all the requisites of landscape and art, for without it we can never transport ourselves to the climes represented." Precisely herein has been the signal triumph of such American artists as CHURCH and BIERSTADT; both have explored distant regions for characteristic and fresh themes; and both have succeeded in giving the true expression of local atmosphere, so that the sky that overhangs and the aërial environment that surrounds the Andes and the Rocky Mountains, truthfully fill the imagination through the vision. It was by gradual transition that CHURCH advanced from the faithful rendition of details, to a comprehensive realism in general effect, as a comparison of his early with his recent pictures demonstrates; but from the first, an attempt to transcend the most common and familiar, and to represent the most impressive phases and phenomena, is apparent; then it was justly said by one of his critics, he painted "with almost crude emphasis." The sky was the field of his earliest triumphs; some of its most remarkable and least delineated phases in the western hemisphere, he boldly and truly transferred to canvas. Few artists have so profoundly and habitually studied sunshine and atmosphere. It has long been his daily custom to ascend a hill, near his country home, to observe the sunset; and in his landscapes "the earth is always painted with reference to the skies," which is one reason of their truth to nature. A want of softness, or rather too great emphasis, in his conceptions, was deemed his great fault; but this is mainly owing to his choice of subjects. As an orator seeks a theme fitted to give ample scope to rhetoric, an artist of scientific eloquence naturally inclines to the phenomenal and the characteristic, not so much from the love of effect, as from an instinctive interest in such scenes and objects in nature as are exceptional and impressive. Thus, before he explored tropical scenery, or ice-haunted waters, he found in the magnificent clouds of America, in her autumn-tinted forests and her peerless cataracts, the most congenial and inspiring subjects. His taste in reading suggests a scientific bias; he has long been attracted by the electrical laws of the atmosphere, and has improved every opportunity to study the Aurora Borealis: having achieved so much in the way of representing light from the pure depths of the zenith to the brilliant radiance of the horizon, we may anticipate for him new and remarkable triumphs in the more evanescent phenomena depending on electrical causes. RUSKIN, when he first saw CHURCH's "Niagara," pointed out an effect of light upon water which he declared he had often seen in nature, especially among the Swiss waterfalls, but never before on canvas; and so perfect is the optical illusion of the iris in the same marvelous picture, that the circumspect author of the modern painters went to the window and examined the glass, evidently attributing the prismatic bow to the refraction of the sun. If seemed logical to refer such novel triumphs to the patient and exclusive study of nature. The proof of the scientific interest of such landscapes as have established CHURCH's popularity, may be found in the vivid and authentic illustrations they afford of descriptive physical geography. No one conversant with the features of climate, vegetation and distribution of land and water that characterize the portions of North and South America, as represented by this artist, can fail to recognize them all in his delineations. It is not that they merely give us a vague impression, but a positive embodiment of these traits. The minute peculiarities of sky, atmosphere, trees, rocks, rivers, and herbage are pictured with the fidelity of a naturalist. Arctic voyagers have borne testimony to the exactness of certain phases of ice-formations in the bergs depicted by CHURCH; the descriptions of tropical scenery by HUMBOLDT find their pictorial counterpart in the "Heart of the Andes," "Cotopaxi," and "Chimborazo;" and the views on the Hudson, the coast of Maine, and other scenes in our Eastern and Middle States, directly appeal to the observers thereof, under the various aspects of the season and hour of the day chosen.

Among the less elaborate but equally characteristic works of this artist, is a fantastic but genuine sky-study, widely circulated at the outbreak of the civil war, in the form of a colored lithograph, and entitled "Our Banner in the Sky," whereby, through an ingenious yet natural sun-emblazoned cloud-study, the folds of our national banner, with stars shining in the firmament, are delineated with effective truth, while the leafless trunk of a tree indicates the staff. A more recent picture represents the Island of Mount Desert, off the coast of Maine, with the peculiar yeasty waves and lurid glow incident to a dry autumnal storm in northern latitudes. It is one of those November or late October mornings; the sun glows red through a murky sky. It has been objected that it should not be blue above, to give the color imparted to the water; but strange and exceptional are the freaks of the elements under conditions like those represented; and if two incompatible effects have been combined in this instance, there can be no doubt of the transcendent ability wherewith the waves and coast are portrayed. "Here," says a critic, who suggests the very defect complained of, "is magnificent force in the sea; we give ourselves up to enthusiasm for it, regarded as pure power; when it dies, its final death in mad froth and vapor, tossed quite to the top of the beetling barrier crags on the right foreground, we feel ourselves in an audacious actual presence, whose passion moves us almost like a living fact of surf. We value the light effects separately, and the fine recklessness of color by itself, among the best instances of CHURCH's power."

ROAD-MAKING.—In former ages, when the best trained architects of Italy were generally priests, the art of road-making there ranked so high as a means of civilization, that "royal and noble sinners very literally paved their way to Heaven, and reached the gates of Paradise by causeways made on earth. ST. BENEDICT laid the basis of his own canonization with the first stone of the famous Bridge of Avignon; which, says Pope NICHOLAS V., was raised by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost." Admitting this, our most scientific pioneers, though not themselves conscious of the fact, are themselves fast scaling the ascents to Heaven itself, while enabling the world at large to rise above the clouds by means of their philosophy; and with regard to the mighty feat of engineering science now crowned with success on the summit of Mont Cenis, it may in sober earnest here be asked, what would have been thought of it in those "dark ages" of Italy when to build a bridge and clear a forest were deeds of salvation for the next world as for this?—*Once a Week.*

CHOLERA.—M. HALLIER supposes that the cholera fungus is a plant imported from Asia, and properly a parasite which grows upon unhealthy rice plants. So close did the connection between cholera and a diseased condition of the rice plant appear to English physicians in India, that they named cholera "rice disease," (*morbus oryzeus.*) HALLIER undertook a series of experiments to decide, as far as possible, the eastern origin of these fungi. He made certain experiments with rice, which prove that, as the fungus destroys the epidermis of the rice plant, so it eats away the intestinal epithelium, or inside skin, in man. The interior of a cholera patient teems with a vegetation of minute fungi, joined end to end as links of a chain, branching out and interlacing in every direction, until all the digestive organs are covered with a matted growth of filaments and spores, propagating after their kind with astonishing rapidity. The high temperature of the digestive organs maintains the fungus plant in activity until it destroys the human soil on which it lives. M. HALLIER, however, seasons his fearfully suggestive theories with some grains of comfort. A high temperature, as provided by the mean climate of India, and by the extreme Summer climate of Europe, also furnishes the condition requisite for the development of the fungus outside the body. Thus in Summer only in European latitudes can this fungus find in earth and fermenting matter the necessary temperature for its increase, and hence the disease cannot become indigenous to Europe, if only obedience be yielded to nature's sanitary laws.—*Dickens' All the Year Round.*

A REGIMENT PERISHING FROM THIRST.—When the Egyptian troops first conquered Nubia, a regiment was destroyed by thirst in crossing this desert. The men, being upon a limited allowance of water, suffered from extreme thirst, and, deceived by the appearance of a mirage that exactly resembled a beautiful lake, they insisted on being taken to its banks by the Arab guide. It was in vain that the guide assured them the lake was unreal, and he refused to lose the precious time by wandering from his course. Words led to blows, and he was killed by the soldiers, whose lives depended upon his guidance. The whole regiment turned from the the track and rushed toward the welcome waters. Thirsty and faint, over the burning sands they hurried—heavier and heavier their footsteps became—hotter and hotter their breath, as deeper they pushed into the desert, further and further from the lost track where the pilot lay in his blood; and still the mocking spirits of the desert, the afreets of the mirage, led them on, and the lake glistening in the sunshine tempted them to bathe in its cool waters, close to their eyes but never at their lips. At length the delusion vanished—the fatal lake turned to burning sand! Raging thirst and horrible despair! the pathless desert and the murdered guide! lost! lost! all lost! Not a man ever left the desert, but they were subsequently discovered, parched and withered corpses, by the Arabs sent upon the search.—*The Nile Tributaries of Abyssinia. By Sir Samuel W. Baker.*

OXFORD, THE POTBOY.—After 27 years of confinement in a criminal lunatic asylum, during which his conduct has been exemplary, and no traces have appeared of mental aberration, OXFORD, the potboy, who shot at Her Majesty in St. James's Park, has been liberated. During this time many appeals have been made in his behalf by influential persons who have had the opportunity of watching his demeanor and gauging his character. His own story has always been, and was consistently from the first, that the pistol which he fired was not loaded. It will be remembered that no bullet was ever found. He attributes the criminal act which he has expiated by long immurement, and which, under a less merciful government, must have cost him his life, to inordinate vanity, fostered by a variety of trivial circumstances in his domestic life and training, on which we need not dwell, and which led to a senseless desire to attain notoriety by some means, and this foolish and criminal impulse led to his lamentable crime. He has occupied his time in a certain amount of self-education, of which the means have been granted to him at Broadmoor, and in the asylum in which he was formerly confined, and has become a tolerable linguist. He has also taught himself and practiced "graining," which he does sufficiently well to earn a living. He has been mercifully released, but has been very properly prohibited from remaining in or visiting England. Whether directly insane at the time of his offence, or led by a miserable love of notoriety, it is very right that the person of the sovereign should be protected from the vanity of a man who, at however distant a period, could commit the cowardly outrage of which he was the perpetrator.—*British Medical Journal.*

REGULATING WATCHES IN SWITZERLAND.—At Neufchatel, in Switzerland, is an observatory organized on an extensive scale, and provided with the very finest instruments. Besides purely scientific results, it renders immense service to chronometer makers by enabling them to produce watches which are every day becoming more perfect. This is important to the branch of industry in question, which can only exist by constant improvement. Prizes are given to makers whose watches or chronometers approach as nearly as possible to perfection. To give an idea of the wonderful precision which has been obtained in this branch of industry, a marine chronometer lately tested, gave the mean variations from day to day, in two months' trial, sec. 0.164. Common watches become more perfect every year. On 67 watches tested since 1866, the mean variation was only $\frac{1}{5}$ of a second in 24 hours.

In 1862 the mean variation was sec	1.61
In 1863 the mean variation was sec	1.28
In 1864 the mean variation was sec	1.27
In 1865 the mean variation was sec	0.88
In 1866 the mean variation was sec	0.74

On more than three-quarters of the chronometers observed in 1866, the mean variation was less than half a second. These practical results show the importance of such observatories as that of Neufchatel.

PLACING SONS.—"But it is not to get money," contends the territorial magnate or merchant prince, "that I place my eldest son in a profession. It is to keep him out of idleness, which is the root of all evil." As if there was no sort of work to be done save wearing a wig or a sword! and, in particular, as if there was not a special sort of work for this young man to do—a special training, moreover, requisite for one in whose hands the welfare of so many will one day be placed. Political economy, social justice, (which includes the great labor question, the dwellings and education of the poor, and many other almost as weighty matters,) and above all, moral responsibility—some just understanding of these things in a young man of vast expectations will be of far more consequence to those dependent on him than his having passed a few years in a cavalry regiment, or even eaten his terms and trifled in a pleader's chambers. The lawyer, the parson, the physician, do not practice their trades without some elementary knowledge of them; yet the man who is called to be a landowner or employer of labor, with duties graver than those of all the rest, has, it seems, nothing to learn. Like Bogberry's reading and writing, their performance is expected to come to him by nature, and the consequence is, he is too often like Dogberry in other respects.—"*Maxims by a Man of the World,*" *in Chambers' Journal.*

THE ARTISTS' INN.—There is an old house at Albano, near the lake, that has been used from time immemorial by artists who frequent the vicinity as an inn, although it makes no pretensions to the character. The successive families, or rather generations to the same family, who have occupied the domicil, do their best to make the guests comfortable, and it is a piece of traditional wisdom to let them have their own way. The freaks, convivialities, Indian talks, and continental extravaganzas resulting from so liberal a rule, may be easily imagined. Doubtless if the old walls could speak, the tales they might unfold would equal the "Decameron" in the richness of their flavor, and "Boz" in humorous zest. As it is, they are not altogether silent, being covered with all kinds of sketches, impromptu landscapes, and grotesque portraits—the hasty but suggestive autographs of the long train of visitors who have stolen thither from the studios and galleries of the Eternal City, for a month's *villegiatura*, or a day's picnic. One fine Spring afternoon a knot of these graphic adventurers were inspecting the several designs, with more curiosity than reverence, when a young American of the party drew the attention of his companions to a female head, the exquisite beauty of which at once changed their sportive comments to earnest admiration. The host was summoned, and in answer to inquiries offered to show them the original. With high-wrought expectations, they followed him to a neighboring farm-house, and beheld an infirm, silver-haired woman of eighty or ninety propped up in an arm-chair. They looked at their guide incredulously, but all present confirmed his assertion. It seems that sixty years before, a German youth—one of the most promising students of the Roman Academy—had roamed thither, like themselves, to breathe the fresh air of the hills, and enrich his scrap-book with views of the lake. The decrepit creature before them was at that period a beautiful girl, the very one so sweetly portrayed on the walls of the venerable dwelling they had just left, of which her father was proprietor. The ardent boy from the Rhine had not finished his sketch before he found himself deeply in love. In a few weeks he married her; they established themselves at Rome, and six months after he was stabbed one evening near his own door. The fair being whose dream of happiness was thus horribly broken returned to Albano, and never left the farm-house or was seen to smile from that hour. —*Tuckerman's Artist Life in America.*

Chambersburgh to be Rebuilt by Co-operation.

From the Pittsburgh Commercial, Dec. 10.

Chambersburgh is to be rebuilt; its citizens have formed a Building Association on the co-operative plan. The object of this Association is declared in its constitution to be "the accumulation of a fund by the savings of the members sufficient to enable every stockholder to invest his savings safely and speedily, and purchase real estate, or to invest the same as it may be deemed by him most profitable."

Any Pennsylvanian of legal age can become a member of this Association by buying a single share of stock, and signing the constitution and by-laws. The number of shares for the present is five hundred; no single person can own more than ten. Whenever the fund of the Association amounts to $250, this sum is to be paid over to the stockholder who, in open meeting offers the highest premium. The successful bidder is required, however, to give ample security. Upon this point the greatest caution will be used. The premium of course goes into the Treasury, and when the fund again reaches the fixed amount, the same process of allotment is repeated.

AFFAIRS IN ITALY.

Demoralization of the Roman Government—Sad Effects of the Lottery System.

From Our Own Correspondent.

FLORENCE, Tuesday, Nov. 26, 1867.

It is a relief to breathe once more the air of free Italy, after being shut up for two or three weeks in the Roman cage. If the melancholy truth must be repeated, I will say that the Roman Government could not easily be worse, as there is sufficient proof in the squalor, filth and moral degradation of the population. Some of our artists there tell you that for their part they do not ask for a better rule, as they pay no taxes, and are at liberty to go and come; but they talk in a different strain when their houses are searched and their letters are broken open, for then the matter is brought near home.

One of the chief scandals of the Clerical Government is the lottery system, kept up under its protection, and from which it seeks to draw considerable revenue. Its demoralizing effects are seen not only in Rome, but in the rest of Italy, where unfortunately it also exists. The people are tempted again and again to try their luck and waste their slender resources in the vain hope of coming to sudden fortune, instead of becoming depositors, of no matter how little, in the savings banks, which are establishments of real benevolence. The Italian who is carried away past hope with the intoxication of the lottery, will sell his household effects, his bed and his shirt, to raise the money with which to try his fortune once more. And the lowest sort of superstition comes in to help him in his search for magical numbers. He makes up a combination from figures which he may find on the walls of churches, or which may accidentally occur in connection with a religious rite. He would, like his ancestors of two thousand years back, even inspect the entrails of animals, if it were possible to find there any mathematical or mystical sign. And the shame is that this lottery abomination finds at Rome its encouragement among the agents and directors of the Church.

It is useless to deny that intelligent Italians are right in their view upon the Papacy as a political establishment. It is just as evident now as it was centuries ago that the Roman ecclesiastics make of the Church a trading institution. Popes and Cardinals do not now build great palaces out of its revenues, as they did once, for those revenues are now greatly reduced; but the shop-keeping and mercenary spirit still shows itself an obstinate refusal to relinquish whatever contribute to secular power. The priests fail utterly in their duty, for in their contact with the people they do not insist that truth-telling, honesty, cleanliness and instruction must be the foundation of all true religion, as they are of all true character. When another class of teachers, with nobler aims, shall arise in this dear Italy, then shall be brought about the changes to which the best intelligence of the country aspires.

While at Rome I was taken outside the Porta del Popolo to see the new place prepared for American Protestant worship. It is large and convenient, and will accommodate six or eight hundred persons, which number, it is expected, the congregation will sometime reach, when Rome shall be full of Americans. It is quite the largest and most decent place of worship which our countrymen have yet had in Italy. The clergyman to succeed Rev. Dr. LYMAN is expected soon to arrive, when services will be commenced for the season. In Florence there are at present two American congregations—one under the care of Rev. Dr. VAN NEST, and the other of Rev. Mr. CONNOLLY. Protestant activity, for the benefit of Protestants, gives the Italians a good example of Protestant energy.

The barricades at the Porta del Popolo make it nearly a break-neck enterprise to get through them; but it may be that they will be removed or some improvement made. The French seem now to have almost the entire control of such works, and the officers, young and old, swell about with a fine air of satisfaction. The French at least know how to organize and govern, and it was a pleasure to see their energy in contrast with the dawdling, do-nothing, undecided Romans. The boys, as we like to call the rank and file of the army, had the pot boiling pretty quick after arriving, and not a great deal of grass grew on the spot where their camp was fixed. A people is not fit to be free, and must expect to be governed by others, unless it has force enough to knock obstacles out of the way, and do the principal part in fighting its own battles. No one knows better than LOUIS NAPOLEON the *lache* character of the Italian population.

The report afloat here is that the Emperor's brain is softening, and there are people who believe it. It is the old plea of insanity for the criminal in court, put in another form. The French will have to see to it and not be ruled by a bedlamite, or the song of their great poet, BERANGER, *Reine du monde, O France, O ma Patrie*, will not any longer come gracefully from their mouths. There is not any too much attachment here either to the French people or their master, and certainly love has not been increased by recent events. By his conduct during the past few years, the French Emperor has not augmented the number of those who wish him well, and so far as this country is concerned, I hear but one opinion expressed, which is that the down-hill road is entered.

Here, in Florence, I find the people sunk into a condition of indifference or stupid expectation, waiting to see what Jupiter or the Sphynx will do next. They will slowly learn, it is to be hoped, that the gods are most ready to help those who help themselves, and that it is better to lock arms and go to battle with the deities than with Frenchmen or Germans.

All are now looking forward to the opening of Parliament as if the salvation of the country depended upon that. I was in the Chamber a day or two ago, and noticed that they were busy getting out the dust of the last session. It would be well if the *personnel* of the Chamber could be as easily purified of some of its bad elements of faction. We are looking for a stormy opening, and yet we are not alarmed, for the storm, if there be one, may do no more harm than a tempest of old women's clattering tongues.

I do not know what has become of VICTOR EMMANUEL, for I have not heard a word about him since coming back here. The Romans were busy reporting that he had absconded and was in parts unknown, and there were people foolish enough to believe it; but the story had no more truth in it than many other Roman romances. The King, who has honestly tried to do so much for Italy, is now feeling the full weight of his large responsibilities. The gratification of his earlier ambition has not brought to him in his mature years a position of ease and assured power. But his robust and not very sensitive nature, should bear it well, and when last seen there was no sign that his trials had made him thin or driven the grape color from his countenance. So you see that the true friends of Italy are hopeful still, and have no notion of consenting either to a break-up or a break-down. There has been a great deal of foolish tattle and quite as much foolish behavior, but as long as men remain what they are that must be expected, but we must both hope and excuse.

ANGELICO.

AFFAIRS IN GEORGIA.

The Condition of Georgia—Industrial, Agricultural and Financial.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MACON, Ga., Sunday, Dec. 8, 1867.

During my stay here to witness the proceedings of the Conservative Convention, I took advantage of the opportunity to see and converse with leading men from every part of Georgia to learn the condition of the country, especially in relation to industry and agriculture.

There is no part of the State where a greater diversity of interests is represented and can be judged of than in Macon. On one side of it is the great cotton-producing district, and on the other one of the richest and most productive provision-raising portions of the State. Six of the principal railroad lines meet and intersect here—the Central to Savannah, the Southwestern to Albany, with a branch to Eufaula; the Columbus, connecting Macon with Columbus on the Chattahoochee; the Macon and Brunswick; the Macon and Western to Atlanta, and the newly-opened line to Augusta, *via* Milledgeville and Sparta, uniting with the Georgia Railroad at Camak. The Ocmulgee River flows by the town, affording, for miles along its banks, water-power to drive an infinite number of spindles and other machinery. This place is the emporium for the trade of Southwestern Georgia. It is the chief cotton and provision market of a large portion of the country, and the business community are among the most enterprising, active and intelligent to be found at the South.

I was painfully struck on my visit this time by the air of dullness and inactivity which seemed to pervade the place. On the principal street (Mulberry) the handsome stores which I remember filled with goods of all sorts, and which used to do a large business, are now almost all closed. Blocks of new buildings which were being built on a grand scale, during the past year, I found unfinished and abandoned. Industrial enterprises which were in hopeful progress, promising great advantages to the public as well as their founders, I learned, on inquiry, were at a stand-still. All improvements involving the outlay of money, whether on the part of companies or individuals, whether public or private, have been arrested, and instead of the bustle, energy and go-a-headativeness which used to characterize Macon, I saw nothing but closed stores, unfinished buildings, half completed enterprises, a sickly, fitful and anxious trade, and a discouraged, apprehensive and spiritless community.

Some time last year a number of enterprising citizens proposed by means of a short canal to turn a portion of the waters of the Ocmulgee, so as to supply the city with water, and furnish ample power for a number of mills of different descriptions which it was intended to build and put in operation. Northern capitalists, to whom the whole scheme was presented, approved it eagerly, and agreed to furnish the necessary capital. But I learned that nothing had been done, the capitalists having declined to furnish the money "on account of the unsettled condition of the country." One of the most extensive retail merchants here told me yesterday that while last year he had eight clerks, who were always busy serving customers, he had now only three, who "could play half the time" and yet do all that was required of them, and that where he took in ten dollars last year he does not now take fifty cents. Wherever I went from everybody with whom I conversed, I heard the same story, the same pitiable detail of disappointed hopes, financial losses and gloomy prospects.

The causes of this condition of affairs are two. First, the unsettled and uncertain state of political affairs, and second, the rapid and heavy decline in the price of cotton. The one effectually checks the flow of foreign capital, and causes the transfer abroad of any native capital which exists, and the other destroys all hope of any revival of prosperity from the fruits of agriculture. I saw and spoke to hundreds of planters and farmers from all parts of Georgia. They all say that they are hopelessly ruined, cannot begin to pay their debts, and have no means to carry on their farms another year. Where a hundred hands were employed last year, not one quarter of that number will be engaged next year. Wages will be necessarily much lower. Great suffering is anticipated among the unemployed negroes. All the speculative planters who rented plantations, and worked a large number of laborers expecting to reap large profits, with cotton at 30 cents per pound, have been hopelessly ruined. I heard of two or three who at the end of the war had $200,000 and $300,000 in cash which they invested in planting, and who to-day do not possess one cent, and are in debt for large amounts. All the Northern and English capitalists who have tried planting in southwestern Georgia have lost every cent of their investment and have abandoned the enterprise in disgust, unable to sell their lands for twenty-five cents on the dollar which they paid. Not one planter whom I saw would make a cent of surplus. The most fortunate only anticipated "making buckle and tongue meet," while the unfortunate will lose everything. The commission merchants who advanced to planters during the year to the full extent of their means, will lose heavily. They will be lucky, they think, if they collect fifty cents on the dollar, while in many cases they have been already informed that they can get nothing. The consequence of this will be that next year they cannot render any assistance to the needy because they are bankrupt themselves. I confess I had no adequate idea of the extent to which ruin had spread until I came here and met the people of all sections of Georgia face to face. I met men who had fine estates before the war reduced to absolute poverty. Judge IVERSON, formerly United States Senator, and his son, once wealthy, are now living here in a little wooden shanty on the banks of the river, and support themselves by keeping a wood yard. Judge NESBIT, Ex-Supreme Court Judge, and Ex-Gov. HOWELL COBB, formerly in affluent circumstances, are dependent entirely on the proceeds of their profession, the law. I mention these names, not as exceptional instances, but as illustrations to show the real condition of the people.

You may depend on it that this picture is true in its every line and shade. I don't present it to excite compassion or for any purpose of appeal *ad misercordiam.* I don't think that it is legitimate for a correspondent of a newspaper to be the advocate or exponent of any interest. It is his duty to state facts, and I can assure you that sad and unwelcome as the foregoing recital may prove to your readers, it can only convey an inadequate idea of the actual state of things. I have sought earnestly to find a ray of light, or an avenue of escape, but I have sought in vain so far as this place is concerned. I go hence to Atlanta to-night, and it may be that I may there find the road to "the better land."

Two of the most important and flourishing newspapers in Georgia are published here. The *Telegraph* and the *Journal & Messenger*. During the sitting of the Convention they extended every hospitality and civility to representatives of the outer Press. As they did not know me in this capacity in their civilities toward me, for which I am duly grateful, they fulfilled the Scripture in "entertaining angels unawares."

UBIQUE.

COLORADO.

Annual Message of Acting Governor Hall.

The Annual Message of Hon. FRANK HALL, acting Governor of Colorado, was communicated to the Territorial Legislature on the 3d inst. After remarking that the most important question affecting the welfare of the people of the Territory is that of obtaining cheap, rapid and safe communication with the East, from which are drawn their supplies, he urges the construction of branches to the Union Pacific Railroad. To secure these, he says, they must have no local jealousies or divided counsels; otherwise, Colorado will continue to suffer from the delays and increased expense of wagon transportation for all foreign supplies, and isolated like an island in mid ocean will see the commerce of nations sweep by while her shores are untouched. To construct these branch railways, however, is impossible for the citizens of the Territory at present, and the Governor recommends the adoption of a joint memorial to Congress asking that a subsidy of lands and money be granted by the General Government to accomplish their completion. The greater revenues derived from the stimulated industries of the Territory would repay this amount, while the construction of the roads would obviate the necessity of military occupation with its attendant heavy expense.

During the past year mining has yielded to well-directed labor most satisfactory results, and although, in consequence of destruction in places from grasshoppers, the crops of the present have not equaled those of the previous year, yet more than sufficient of all kinds of produce has been gathered to supply every want. The whole number of acres taken up for actual settlement during the year, is 57,416; and the number of acres filed under the act of Sept. 4, 1861, is 103,000. The Governor urges the necessity for the immediate organization of a bureau of statistics, to afford information frequently sought respecting the soil, climate, productions, &c., of the Territory.

The various interests of the Territory have been admirably represented at the Paris Exposition through the efforts of the Commissioner, J. F. WHITNEY, and the direct result is thus stated: "The first gold medal awarded to minerals; the appointment of an imperial Commissioner who has visited the Territory, and reported his observations therein for the benefit of capital and science in France; the selection of an agent by the German Emigrant Aid Society of Prussia to visit and investigate the advantages offered by Colorado for the early colonization of a large number of Germans; the diffusion throughout Europe of such useful knowledge as will have a direct tendency to invite the industrial classes of all nations to make new homes among our people."

The message says that the Indian question, through the efforts of the Peace Commissioners, may now be regarded as no longer capable of seriously disturbing the tranquility of that section, for even if the new treaties are violated within the year, the Union Pacific Railroad by its extension has become available as a means of communication with their base of supplies. In this connection it is urged that life annuities should be provided by Congress for the Ute nation, who have steadily maintained their allegiance to treaty stipulations. Some more rigid legislation is required for the prevention of election frauds and a registry law is recommended. The partial abridgement of mail facilities by the law of 1864, through which the Territory is almost wholly deprived of periodical literature, is deemed to be due to the malign influence of mail contractors, and a memorial to Congress upon the subject is suggested. Objections are made to the proposed establishment of a new Territory, with its seat of government located at Cheyenne, as it might necessitate the loss to Colorado of an important part of territory with no compensating advantages.

The message closes with a statement of the efforts made to secure the admission of Colorado as a State. An enabling act having been passed by Congress four years since, a constitution was framed, submitted to the people, and rejected. Two years later, when the soldiers had returned home, a new and more acceptable constitution was framed, and it was ratified by a majority of 155 votes. State officers and two Senators were elected. The bill for admission twice passed Congress, and was each time vetoed by the President. A third bill was introduced and is now pending. The Governor says:

"The principal argument urged against the measure by the disaffected of all parties was the inadequacy of population. During the legislative session of 1865 a census bill was passed, and the census taken, which resulted in placing the number of resident inhabitants at less than 30,000. Every unprejudiced mind declared at once against this unquestionably false return, but its effect had already gone abroad to tell the world that Colorado was being depopulated, and would soon become a mere blank on the broad map of the nation. The returns are well known, and need not therefore be recapitulated. That our numbers have largely increased during the year is incontrovertible. As an evidence of this fact, I need only point to the returns of the last popular election held in August, whereby we have established five persons to each voter, a population much little short of that claimed by Nebraska, now an honored member of the galaxy of States. It seems to me that to allow this persistent effort to achieve State sovereignty, running through four years, to fail at last, leaving us in the territorial condition with no influence in national affairs, and but little in our own, would be little less than suicidal to every vital interest. What may be called the Rocky Mountain system of railroads has sufficiently developed itself to show that without a voice in the Government at Washington we are to be deprived of all benefits arising from its inauguration and completion. The events of the past twelve months, to which reference is unnecessary, fully establish this view of the question. We find that even in the matter of connection with one or both of the great lines of railway, we have nothing but our own resources, unaided by public land grants as in new States, to encourage the enterprise. The

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, DEC. 15, 1867.

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To Advertisers.

Advertisers in the TIMES are requested to bring in their notices at as early an hour in the day as possible. Received after 8½ o'clock, it will be impossible to classify them under their proper heads.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

EUROPE.

The police authorities yesterday reported three killed and about forty wounded by the Clerkenwell explosion on Friday. TIMOTHY DESMOND, JERRY ALLEN, and ANN JUSTICE, who were arrested near the scene of the explosion and immediately after its occurrence, were yesterday arranged before a magistrate and submitted to a long and sharp examination. No definite proof against them, however, was obtained. BURKE and CASEY, two Fenians who are confined in Clerkenwell Prison, were also examined, but denied all knowledge of the cause of the recent explosion. The excitement in London was very great. In commenting upon the affair, the entire Press seems to be of the opinion that the time for lenity toward the Fenians has passed. The *Times* is particularly decided in its remarks, and closes a long article with the following words: "Let there be no more clemency for Fenianism, which is a mixture of treason and assassination." Rumors are current that Col. KELLY, the Fenian prisoner who was rescued at Manchester, is in England, notwithstanding the stories to the contrary, and that he is still directing the movements of the Fenian Brotherhood. There are those who openly assert that the explosion at Clerkenwell was the result of one of the schemes of KELLY. The inquest on the bodies of the persons killed will be held on Monday.

In the Court of Admiralty yesterday Prioleau's plea in the case of the *Alexandra* was admitted. A commission is to be appointed for the purpose of procuring evidence in the United States.

Dispatches have been received in London announcing that the Abyssinian captives are alive and well. Four thousand Egyptian warriors have joined the British expedition at Massowah.

The new Austrian Constitution has, after a long debate, been adopted by the Reichsrath.

The steamship *Union*, from Bremen Nov. 30 and Southampton Dec. 3, arrived at this port yesterday.

GENERAL.

The *Evening Telegram* of yesterday publishes a special dispatch from Havana to the effect that the Spanish Government has offered, through our Minister at Madrid, to sell to the United States the Islands of Cuba and Porto Rico. The price asked is one hundred and fifty millions of dollars, in gold, payable in three equal installments, the first payment to be made when the treaty is signed, the second one year later, and the last at the end of six years. The inhabitants of those islands are represented as being generally in favor of transferring their allegiance.

In the Constitutional Convention yesterday, a minority report relative to the State Salt Works was submitted, together with a resolution authorizing the Legislature to expend money in working and developing the State Salt Springs, and providing for the reimbursement of the Treasury by imposing a duty on salt. A resolution providing for the adjournment of the Convention from Dec. 23 to Jan. 2, and for an adjournment *sine die* on Jan. 7, was laid on the table, after which the Convention adjourned to Monday evening.

The large reservoir in Douglass, Mass., gave way on Friday night, washing away one hundred feet or more of the Boston, Hartford and Erie Railroad track and embankment. A dwelling house and a family living therein was floated off some distance. The occupants of the house, having been rescued, succeeded in giving the alarm, so that an express train which was approaching the chasm was saved from destruction.

The Paymaster-General has laid before Congress a statement in relation to the amount of money that will be needed in addition to the $1,500,000 heretofore appropriated, to complete the work of reconstruction. He says that Gen. SCHOFIELD, for the first district, asks $50,000; Gen. CANBY asks for the second district $199,689; Gen. POPE asks for the third district $47,163; Gen. HANCOCK asks for the fourth district $383,822; Gen. ORD asks for the fifth district $521,579. Total, $1,202,254.

The Secretary of the Treasury has presented his detailed statement of the additional appropriations required for the present fiscal year, ending next June. The aggregate is $15,564,000. Among the specific sums asked for are the following: For constructing custom-house at Portland, Me., $50,000; constructing court-house at the same place, $50,000; remodeling marine hospital at Chelsea, Mass., $45,000.

THOMAS GARNER, lately deceased, has made the following benevolent bequests, as appears from his will, which has been admitted to probate during the past week, before Hon. GIDEON J. TUCKER, Surrogate: To the American Bible Society, Nursery and Child's Hospital, American Female Guardian Society—to be applied to the benefit of the House for the Friendless—$10,000 each; to the New-York Hospital (including Bloomingdale Asylum,) Children's Aid Society, New-York Eye and Ear Infirmary, Society for the Relief of Poor Widows with Small Children, St. Luke's Home for Indigent Christian Females, Protestant Episcopal Society for the Promotion of Evangelical Knowledge, Society for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Clergymen; to the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of New-York, St. Ann's Church (Episcopal) for Deaf Mutes, Mission Society of the Episcopal Church—domestic and foreign—(one-half each,) $5,000 each; to the Howard Mission and Home for Little Wanderers, in the City of New-York; to the Five Points House of Industry, New-York; to the Society for the Relief of Respectable Aged and Indigent Females, in the City of New-York, $2,500 each; to the New-York Institution for the Blind, $1,500; to the Sheltering Arms and House of Mercy, and the New-York Episcopal City Mission Society, for the use of St. Barnabas House, each $2,000.

All those applicants for admission to the Bar who were examined at the November General Term of the Supreme Court, and who have been favorably reported by the Examining Committee and the Committee on Character, are requested to attend at the General Term Room of the Supreme Court, at 10 A. M., on Monday, the 16th inst., for the purpose of signing the roll of attorneys, taking the oath of office as required by the Constitution, and receiving their licenses to practice as attorneys and counsellors in all the courts of this State. Several decisions will at the same time be rendered by the General Term. The Court will convene at 11 A. M.

At the Supreme Court, Brooklyn, General Term, yesterday, an action was tried involving the rights of railway companies to allow their cars to remain at the foot of Fulton-street longer than was necessary to discharge and take in passengers. Some time since an injunction was granted, on application of Mr. Commissioner FUREY, which prevented the car-drivers delaying at the ferry, but a temporary counter-injunction was allowed by the companies. The matter finally came up for hearing yesterday, and having been fully discussed, the presiding Justice, GILBERT, reserved his decision.

The Board of City Canvassers met yesterday. A communication was received from the Police Commissioners, asking for the names of such canvassers as have omitted to return the vote for Councilmen. A communication was received from the Corporation Counsel, in answer to a resolution of inquiry, stating that the district canvassers can be compelled by law to complete their returns, and that the Police Commissioners have no power to interfere with the canvassers in the performance of the duties devolved on them by law.

A painter named WM. CONROY was arrested at Brooklyn yesterday, charged with having attempted to murder Mrs. BONNERT, No. 374 Bridge-street. He called at the ladies' saloon the night previous, and while partaking of some sausage, suddenly seized a knife and attempted to slash her on the head, inflicting on her, however, only a few cuts on the hand. Mrs. BONNERT failed to prosecute, but WILLIAM has been detained in custody on a charge of using a deadly weapon.

In the case of the Indianapolis and Chicago Railroad Company *vs.* THOMAS M. TYNG, heretofore reported in our columns, the jury, after being out all night, came into court yesterday morning and announced that they were unable to agree upon a verdict. They were, therefore, discharged from the further consideration of the case.

The storm moderated to a considerable degree yesterday, but overhanging clouds threatened a renewal. There were several slight falls of snow, but not of sufficient importance to add to street obstructions, or to threaten further blockade of trains unless more severe elsewhere. Several casualties in addition to those already given are reported.

Prof. S. D. GROSS, of Philadelphia, delivered an address last evening, at the Bellevue Hospital College, upon "The Life and Character of Prof. VALENTINE MOTT." The lecture-room was filled with an audience composed principally of medical gentlemen.

Last evening GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN, ELIZABETH CADY STANTON, and SUSAN B. ANTHONY spoke at Steinway Hall, in favor of women's suffrage. Mr. TRAIN also gave a lively description of his recent journey to the West, and the reception which he met with from the people.

The number of deaths in the City during the week ending Saturday, 14th inst., was 366, or 20 less than during the previous week.

The City Chamberlain.

The example which has been set by Mr. SWEENEY, the City Chamberlain, in returning to the City Treasury the interest accumulating from City deposits, will doubtless be followed hereafter by his successors in office, if not of their own volition, yet by the force of public opinion. Mr. SWEENEY has been refunding in this way the proceeds of two months—amounting to the handsome sum of $34,000, or at the rate of upward of $200,000 per annum. Heretofore these perquisites—not so enormous it is true as the present rate of taxation has made them—have been pocketed by the Chamberlain instead of passing to the credit of the taxpayers—a proceedure altogether preposterous. The salary of the Chamberlain ought to be fixed by the next Legislature at a sum which should be a fair compensation for the duties this official is called upon to perform. The system of pocketing the large perquisites of the office which Mr. SWEENEY has been the first voluntarily to depart from, and for which departure he should receive the thanks of the tax-paying community, ought to be prohibited by law. The services of no single man, no matter how valuable they are—are worth anything like the amount which the interest on the City deposits has put in possession of the Chamberlain.

Costly Almsgiving.

There are as many kind-hearted and charitable men in New-York as in any other city of the world. But, somehow or other, there seems to be a certain social influence and compulsion upon them which don't allow their purposes to be as effective as they might. Look at the Commissioners of Charities and Correction in this City. Last year they expended over $86,000 for the poor, and—shall we say it?—took over $20,000 for their own salaries. Surely, there is something wrong here. To relieve the wants of our poor, could not New-York furnish half a dozen gentlemen of property and leisure—men of high notions and high spirit—who would take a pride in going about and administering this charity of the City without a thought of pay? We want such men.

And in saying this we do not so much reflect on any individuals as on the genius and general spirit of the community. People in general laugh at the idea of a man doing anything for nothing. But this kind of spirit countenances a good many of our public defects and meannesses. All functions and services like those we have alluded to should be *honorary*, and citizens of wealth, leisure and public spirit—and there are many such among us—should be looked to in such cases and invited to take the situations due to men of their kind in all intelligent communities.

Another Ancient Bourbon.

Mr. EX-Senator MASON, formerly of Virginia, lately of England, and now of Canada, formerly an ultra pro-slavery advocate, subsequently an agent of foreign intervention, and now an unreconstructed malcontent, is twice as much of a Bourbon as his Senatorial *confrere* of other times, R. M. T. HUNTER, who has never made himself ridiculous either as a rebel or a Virginian.

Mr. MASON has found a pretext for placing his views on the present political situation of the country before Virginia and the world. He received a private invitation to remove from Canada to Jamaica, and he very naturally, or at least very masonically, writes a public reply, telling what he thinks of reconstruction, the negro question and the prospects of the Southern States. He opens by delicately alluding to the fact that he himself is not in the South to share the "consequences and responsibilities of the counsels he gives;" and if any one had asked him the reason why he was in Canada instead of Virginia, in the new "Dominion" instead of the old, he would doubtless have made a graceful allusion to the exile which he is compelled to endure because of the patriotic part which he played in company with SLIDELL some years ago. In failing to recall this portion of his career to the American people, he has made an omission which he will doubtless be glad to supply as soon as it is brought to his notice. After this personal allusion, and after his personal omission, he proceeds to express himself in a style which shows him to be of purer Bourbon blood than any other descendant of either branch of the Bourbon stock. He thus goes on:

> "My decided conviction has been that, for the present at least, it would be better for them (the Southern people) to remain and wait events, in the hope and belief that a time must come when the reckless and unscrupulous party in power at Washington would be overthrown, and the Southern States again *remitted to full and exclusive control over their respective populations without foreign intervention.* In such case, I should rely that the intelligence, wisdom, and, more than all, the experience of our people in regard to the negroes, would *enable them to devise some system of legislation by which, without again reducing them to slavery, they could be made to discharge the incumbent duties of a laboring class*—a hope now much encouraged by the apparent tone of the North, as evinced in the late elections. I am satisfied that nothing but such exclusive control can save our people from the alternative of exterminating the blacks or of abandoning the country to them."

The mention in the above that the South may yet possibly succeed in gaining its rights "without foreign intervention," shows that Mr. MASON now, at last, considers his mission to England as virtually closed. He will henceforth intrigue no more with Lord RUSSELL, coöperate no more with Mr. SLIDELL, correspond no more with JEFF. DAVIS, deal no more with Mr. LAIRD. This part of his duty being ended, at least for the time, he will now seek in other ways to bring about the result which he has, until lately, sought to secure through these methods. Even a Bourbon may have more than one way of doing a thing.

The thing to be done refers, of course, to the negro—what else could it refer to? It signifies their enslavement—what else could it signify?

As foreign intervention, then, failed in the great matter of maintaining slavery, Mr. MASON would now try what can be done in the same direction by Southern *diplomacy*—using the word diplomacy in the fine old Bourbon sense of craft, duplicity, circumvention and hypocrisy. In his own words, he seeks to "devise some system of legislation by which, without again reducing the negroes to slavery, (much obliged to you, Bourbon! for the concession,) they could be *made to discharge the incumbent duties of a laboring class.*" Now, while we cannot but repeat our admiration of the diplomatic skill which Mr. MASON displays in refraining from reëstablishing slavery, at least for the time being, we must remind him of a little incident which men like him might occasionally think of to some purpose. We had a war in this country. That war overthrew forever the dynasty of the Bourbons. It moreover established the civil and political relations of those who were lately their slaves in a way which they will never be permitted to interfere with. It not only took the matter out of their hands, but, lest it should ever get there again, cut off their hands. Mr. MASON, having been abroad, seems to be utterly unaware of this circumstance; but he will very quickly learn it if ever he attempts to return to this country with the notion of interfering in it. These occurrences, furthermore, are irrevocable in their nature. They are like the laws of the Medes and Persians; and it would be easier to change even these upside down than to bring back the ghosts of those Ideas which the American people executed when they had defied their power.

Mr. MASON need entertain no such hope as he expresses for an alteration of public opinion on these questions. The late elections mean no such thing as he imagines. And we will remind him and all other Bourbons, for their special benefit, that it will only require a continuance in their present course of attempting to reverse the irreversible conclusions of the war, to bring about a decision from the people of the North which will send daylight even into the heads of Bourbons.

The Conservative Conventions on Negro Suffrage.

After an Autumn of inactivity so gross in its folly as to be culpable, the Southern Conservatives at last met in Convention in several States—notably in Virginia, Georgia, and Louisiana—to mourn over the political outlook. They found, of course, that the year's harvest was past, and its crop gathered up in the shape of Reconstruction Conventions in nearly or quite every State from the Potomac to the Rio Grande. Instead of repenting that they had not thrust in their own sickles, they now content themselves with abusing those who reaped where they had sowed, and gathered where they had strewn. But resolves, and protests, and lamentations can ill repair the lack of labor in the past, and will not bring back a lost opportunity. In at least two of the three States above mentioned, the Conservatives, with a liberal platform of principles and a strenuous campaign, might have absolutely controlled the very conventions wherein they now have but a beggarly representation. But they preferred to lay out their strength in unofficial and fruitless conventions of their own party, instead of applying it to the work of moulding the official conventions convoked under the Reconstruction laws of Congress.

Grosser than the Summer's negligence, however, is the Winter's folly of some of the most prominent men in these Conservative Conventions. Taught by the pitiless logic of past events, they ought, we would suppose, to be now ready to abandon the untenable positions which have cost them the control of their own States, and betake themselves to other positions so as to recover the lost ground. Such, at all events, would be the dictate of ordinary political sagacity, not to speak of that deeper wisdom which aims to control the current of the times, instead of idly breasting it only to be swept away. But no: prominent Conservatives are clinging to their dead theories with fresh tenacity.

The secret, doubtless, is that these Conservative gentlemen have been misled by what they fancy to be the moral of the November elections at the North. They have put upon these elections not the interpretation which was most reasonable, but that which was most agreeable. Let them beware of the flattering unction. Rightly understood, there is a great moral in the November balloting; but some of the Southern Conservatives are of those who wrest even the Scriptures to their own destruction. If they fancy that the people of the North have voted to roll reconstruction backward, no error is so grievous and baneful. The people of the North reproved the proposed Radical policy of the future; they did not unravel the consummated policy of the past. The Southern Conservatives can still aid moderate men of the North in applying the brake to prevent too furious "progress" in politics, if they choose; but it is folly for them to aim to reverse reconstruction, and set it on a retrograde course.

When conventions and distinguished men take ground against allowing *any* black man to vote, thus making his color or descent an absolute bar to suffrage, no matter what his qualifications in intelligence and integrity, it is like trying to turn the sun back in his orbit. Negro suffrage, in some shape, is a fixed fact. When it comes to negro judiciary, to the disfranchisement of the disloyal, to confiscation, or even to universal suffrage, there is a chance for discussion. But when the door for argument or compromise is shut by a cool proposition to give no black man at all a vote, it will not be surprising if the response is: "He is joined to his idols, let him alone."

The truth is that it is only themselves that these obstinately blind citizens of the South make ridiculous. Negro suffrage in some shape they cannot withstand; and while it is accreting with each day's lapse to a historic fact, they connive to pass resolutions that it will never, never be established at the South. They are like the population of "Staggs' Gardens" who regarded these precincts as "too sacred to be withered by railroads;" and their incredulity as to the desirability or the success of negro suffrage at the South is precisely like that of the gentleman who was understood to take the lead in the politics of the Gardens, and who had publicly declared "that on the occasion of the railroad opening, if it ever did open, two of his boys should ascend the flues of his dwelling, with instructions to hail the failure with derisive jeers from the chimney pots."

There was a work, and an important and definite one, lying before the Conservatives of the South at the commencement of the political campaign. That was: frankly accepting the political as well as social changes in the condition of the freedmen which the war had brought about to make a standard of suffrage which should be wise and just and practicable. That standard is the one of intelligence, and it was sufficient for the purpose of the South. It was simply absurd—and the absurdity was, and still is, as patent to the North as the South, and perhaps to the freedmen as to either—to suppose that a race as a race could be released from centuries of bondage on one day, and on the next exercise to the full the rights of citizens in self-governing States, and in a Republic whose security depended on the capacities and political intelligence of its people. We say that this proposition (which is that of universal suffrage for the blacks) carried its error on its own face; nor have even the more intelligent of the freedmen failed to see it. But instead of starting from this point, and having shown the necessity of some qualification in suffrage then proceeding to make such qualification—as of education, property, military service, or what not—as would have enabled the best citizens of the South to control its destiny—the Conservatives went to the other extreme. They began by making color an objection to suffrage, and refused the right of voting even to the very best man of the African race. That we say has been their error. They should even now accept the necessity of qualified negro suffrage, and control the necessity to the good of the South and of the common country, and the North will support them in it. The North wishes intelligence, industry and energy to rule at the South, and property to be secure there. These late conventions would have been more profitably engaged had they drawn up acceptable plans by way of compromise, instead of taking up their time with profitless platitudes, set off by eulogies of a political age which can never return.

The French Maritime Exposition.

NAPOLEON III., whose grand Industrial Exposition in the Champ de Mars at Paris, during the present year, was such a success, now contemplates another exposition of the maritime sort, which is to take place during the Summer of next year in the port of Havre. This is another great fact significant of the Emperor's policy of restoring to France some of that relative superiority in the departments of her manufactures and her marine, which she possessed among the nations over a century ago, and which she has lost ever since the memorable war, guided by Lord CHATHAM, deprived her of the great Canadian region and her settlements in the East Indies. The coming show at Havre will comprehend everything relating to the life or enterprise of men on the ocean, all the furniture and paraphernalia of ships, whether designed for peaceful commerce or the shock of war. The power of steam will powerfully aid the Emperor in his design of bringing the French navy into something like an equality with the British; for it is on *machinery* more than *seamanship* that the great maritime Powers must now depend. Lord STANHOPE, about seventy years ago, said that *steam* would yet diminish the British supremacy at sea, by making the art of seamanship of less importance. This is, no doubt, one of the great *idées napoléoniennes* also. NAPOLEON III. would prefer a commercial dominion for France, before the barrier of the Rhine.

The Abyssinians.

In their anxiety to find out about that country which they have voted two or three million pounds to overrun, the English are naturally buttonholing in private and lionizing in public everybody who knows or pretends to know anything of Abyssinia. A man who has actually been there, and is still extant, is a treasure; even his most distant relation—his second cousin or mother-in-law—borrows from him a reflected glory. The great topic for public lectures in England is Abyssinia; and the report which the London *Review* gives of the recent Abyssinian lecture of Mr. J. CRAWFORD shows with what generalities people must be content, for the lack of useful details. It seems that the Abyssinians are pronounced "licentious, litigious and untruthful"—but so are many people in colder climates. They are "polite in their manners, but unreliable"—perfectly Parisian. "Have hardly any coin"—thoroughly American. "They appear, for the most part, to be a happy set of beings"—sharing that experience, let us hope with the French, German, and many other peoples. "Roughly speaking, they are divided into four classes—military, sacerdotal, agricultural and mercantile." Roughly speaking, all other nations are divided into just the same four classes. There is more humor and point in the London *Review's* charge that "the native women allow themselves, and are allowed, very great freedom," and that the Abyssinian maid whom COLERIDGE saw in a vision was probably no better than she should be. But even this item will hardly assist Sir ROBERT NAPIER, and, in general, it must be owned that very little of military value has yet come of all the lecturings and lionizings of travelers. But it will soon be time to get something practical from the expedition itself.

Snow About the Hydrants.

The necessity of the suggestion which was made through our columns yesterday by the President of the Fire Department, respecting the clearing away of snow from hydrants, was aptly illustrated by the fire at No. 49 Dey-street. The flames burst out on the first floor, where they would doubtless have been confined, if considerable time had not been lost by the firemen in exhuming the water-vents in the vicinity, which were all buried deep in the snow, and the result was consequently disastrous. The Fire Commissioner recommends that *citizens* owning or occupying premises near the hydrants should see that they are kept in condition for use. This is all well enough, but we must remind the Commissioner that it will be best not to depend upon this voluntary action of the public, to whom he appeals. A better method of bringing about his desires would be to detail a few men from each of the fire companies to clear away the snow from the hydrants in their respective localities. The stalwart fellows who are on watch at the engine-houses awaiting the fire-signal, would not materially hurt themselves or detract from the good opinion in which the Department is held, by a vigorous use of the snow-shovels in making a clear space about the hydrants. As the case now stands, property is very much in jeopardy. The snow about the water-supplies ought to be removed by somebody at once.

Physicians and Apothecaries.

A speech made by Hon. STEPHEN J. COLLAHAN, in the Constitutional Convention last month, in support of his resolution concerning the admission of candidates to the practice of medicine and the dispensing of drugs, has not received the public attention the subject deserves. A review of laws bearing on this topic shows that, under the provisions of an act of 1806, county and State medical associations were, and still are, permitted to be incorporated by the clubbing together of five or more "medical men," who, without further responsibility, may admit others to the practice of medicine. And by the law of 1853, all colleges may grant medical diplomas, under certain conditions of age, recommendation and certificate of instruction, elsewhere. Both of these systems are so general and diffuse that a competition has arisen in regard to the number of degrees conferred, rather than the qualifications of those receiving them. That part of the law requiring a good English education has become obsolete, and the three years' study of medicine and its cognate sciences, which is demanded, has become almost farcical in the laxity of its accomplishment in very many cases, so that regularly licensed and legally graduated Doctors are often unfit persons for the trust they undertake. Another evil of our State system is permitting individuals to practice medicine in this State who claim to be graduates from institutions in other States, where often a short residence and a certain amount of money will procure diplomas; for instance, in Pennsylvania. In regard to charlatans, the only protection the public has against them is that "all persons not licensed who shall practice or attempt to practice as a physician or surgeon * * * * * shall be liable for damages in cases of malpractice, *as if such persons were duly licensed to practice!*" And no one is liable to criminal prosecution for unlicensed practicing, "unless in case of *malpractice or gross ignorance*, or *immoral conduct* in such practice!"

Then in regard to the dispensing of drugs the same looseness of regulation exists.

It needs no argument—only a little exercise of memory—to make plain the dangers of ignorant or careless labors in making or dispensing medicines. Several shocking cases have occurred in this City and Brooklyn within this present year. In Europe, the profession and trade of pharmacy is rigidly guarded by examinations of applicants, and the whole number of druggists is proportioned to the number and needs of the population. In France, the pharmacists, even in the smallest villages, possess a knowledge of chemistry, botany, &c., and their scientific discoveries are often of great benefit to the science.

To meet all these evils of our system, or rather lack of system, Mr. COLLAHAN offered a resolution, embodying a constitutional article, which provided that the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, shall appoint two State medical boards—one composed of three physicians of the homeopathic school, and the other of five of the allopathic school, of practice; that no person shall hereafter be permitted to practice medicine within this State until after passing a satisfactory examination before either of these Boards (excepting those now legally authorized;) that the respective Pharmaceutical Societies of the State, duly incorporated, shall have full power to license apothecaries and druggists, according to a uniform system of examination to be adopted by them; dispensing or compounding drugs without such license is forbidden; the Legislature shall make violations of these provisions a criminal offence with proper penalties.

Whether this covers all the ground or makes the wisest provision practicable, is not a question we desire to discuss at present. We wish only to call public attention to the subject as one of, literally, vital importance, and to urge that it may not be lost sight of.

MINOR TOPICS.

The great snow-storm will at least put a stop to the alarming mania for walking on wagers—and that is always something. It is an ill wind that blows nobody good. Walking matches had really come to be quite a nuisance; and if a friend or clerk were missing from his wonted place, he might be expected to have started from New-York for Montreal, or Mobile, or Matamoras, as the case might be, for $500 a side. There will not be much chance for across-country perambulation until next Spring, and probably by that time the rage will have died out, to be succeeded by "the national game," or something else equally inspiring. Meanwhile we may look for skating matches, or, perhaps, now that we think of it, snow-shoe matches—that is to say, pedestrianism in spite of the weather.

What a painful and most deplorable spectacle is that presented every day of the week in our public streets by the ladies of the City, in the wretched little saucer bonnets perched on the summit of their back-hair, and those small rimmed hats which they carry on their foreheads and slanting over their blue-cold noses. They are, in fact, killing themselves ridiculously by going about, during the bitter wintry weather, in such imperfect head coverings. They get face-aches and ear-aches, and rheumatism in the head, running down into the jaws and giving them the horrible pangs of toothache, and running into their throats and lungs and leaving their the seeds of inflammation, disease and death. But these paltry head-coverings are the fashion, it seems; and no logic will ever prevent the ladies from killing themselves in the fashionable way. If they could be said to be reasonable beings, like Eskimos, or Samoyeds, or Alaskans, they would get hoods of some becoming sort, for a month or two, and so preserve their lives—or rather, their looks, the more important consideration—to gladden the hearts of mankind in the genial days of the returning Spring.

The cable tells us that the Italian Government fears an insurrection in the City of Naples. This is the continuance of an agitation which has been at work ever since the Garibaldian movement on Rome took shape. The immediate interest centering in the theatre of warlike operations, and the political complications with France since that time engaging the most of public attention, this Neapolitan ebullition has hardly been noticed. But in fact it was so great, weeks ago, that the municipal body was dissolved by the Italian Government, and a Royal Commissary appointed instead. The city officials had utterly neglected their local duties, and had given themselves up to national political intrigue. They even were suspected of preparing a declaration of Provisional Government, distinct from the kingdom and in sympathy with the Garibaldini. Now, it can hardly amount to much, but at one time it threatened serious trouble.

The newspapers are recording the rapidity with which the town of Cheyenne, at the base of the Rocky Mountains, has taken form and consistence and gathered a population of five thousand persons, with a municipal government, since last June. It is certainly a great rate of going ahead and a thing to be proud of, in some respects. But we observe that the adventurous inhabitants had scarcely come together and roofed themselves in when they began, men, women and children, to play at games of chance—faro, keno, roulette, poker, French monte and a number of others all going on in full blast at all hours of the day and night, and money and strong drink flowing like water. Perhaps a little slowness here would be commendable. But, fast in one thing, fast in everything; and it is argued that something must be pardoned to the spirit of American adventure. Cheyenne, on the line of the great Pacific Railway, will settle down by degrees into the form of a well-ordered and prosperous city, like those in the older States.

We wonder how many people whom it interests will take to heart and apply the lesson contained in the Coroner's verdict upon the youth who fell through a hatchway in Jacob-street, the other day, and was killed. The jury censured the owners of the building "for employing so young a person to take care of the dummy," and for "not providing proper railings around the openings on each floor." Half of the dummies in the City are run by persons "so young" or so old, or at all events so cheap as to make accidents from their use by no means surprising; and half the hatchways in stores and storehouses lack suitable railings and safeguards. Here in America the amount of human life sacrificed by carelessness or ignorance, but really to petty economy, is appalling. Of such accidents, the above is a good example. We fear its lesson will pass unheeded, and neither hatchways nor dummies will be more heeded than if this life had not been lost.

We see from some of the English newspapers that Scotland—of all places in the world—has been furnishing a military company for the service and defence of the Pope. They have been gathered from the rugged braes and mountain farms of the Western Highlands, and are commanded by Major GORDON, a Catholic gentleman lately in the British service, who is minded before he dies to stand guard over His Holiness and obtain his blessing—"forbye" whatever small amount of pay the Apostolic exchequer may be able to afford. The Major's volunteers are described as fine-looking, freckled fellows, about fifty of them standing fully six feet high in their brogues. To quote ERSKINE—a little altered—

> "In the garb of old Gaul, to the Pope of old Rome,
> From the heath-covered mountains of Scotia they go."

We hope, for their own sakes, these poor fellows have got NAPOLEON'S passport for their expedition. His Majesty is accustomed to have a large finger in that pontifical pie, and has shown himself very jealous of those who volunteer service under the banner of PIUS. A few years ago, as everybody is aware, he had O'REILLY and his Irish regiment sent "to the right about" from Rome, and in the present case he may order the lads with the philabeg to go "back agen," bagpipes and all.

The French Emperor's new recruiting bill is an improvement on his last year's attempt. The term of service is to be nine years, five only being in active service, the rest in the reserve. The privilege of purchasing substitutes is restored; and of the five years' members of the National Garde Mobile, men not called or on furlough may marry during the last two years. These terms are much easier than before, and yet they are capable of yielding an enormous increase to the army in time of war. On the 1st of October last, the active army of France numbered 424,032, including the 65,263 in Algeria, and the 40,000 absent on leave. But the reserve was 226,466, so that the grand total of the army may be estimated at 650,398—a tolerable establishment for the Empire of "peace." Whatever the upshot of the present or future complications in Europe, NAPOLEON evidently doesn't mean to be caught napping.

People are just now talking of precautions against poison. The worst poison does not come from the druggists. It comes from our modes of ventilation; or, rather, of non-ventilation; and our practice in this respect is a satire on our pretensions to science and enlightenment. Our city reading-rooms and libraries are almost all badly ventilated. In Summer the side-windows of the apartments are opened, and the *thorough-draught*, which, at times, is strong enough to flutter the leaves of the books, "fills one's bones with aitches" and shortens the lives of literary invalids. In Winter the burnt-out, heavy air of stoves, or other heaters, is equally murderous; for then doors and windows are shut, and none but the youngest and most robust can pass an hour in such atmospheres without asphyxia, or something very near it. 'Tis dreadful to see and feel such things in the very seats of intellect and science. Poison! Our deadliest poison goes into the lungs and not into the stomach. Librarians do not seem to remember the simple fact that a few vents near the cornices would remedy this state of things. Others in society—architects and the managers of churches, theatres and other public buildings—are just as negligent as the librarians. But these last are especially alluded to because, having some connection with science, they ought to know better, and give a good example to the rest.

There are some persons in New-York who affect to think there is danger of fire in the Nicolson blocks of pavement. They might as reasonably fear the East River will take fire—a conflagration which could only take place when the Excise officers empty all the contraband whisky into it, which, of course, they will never do. The only thing likely to ignite those pavement blocks, where they lie, would be some volcanic bursting-out from the entrails of Manhattan—at this juncture when all the volcanoes and earthquakes are in such a diabolical state of activity. This, however, cannot be calculated on. But there is, certainly, one danger of fire to which that pavement is liable—the danger of being dug up by the boys, on the sly, to take the place of the dust-barrels which they run away with at present, after the elections. For that purpose the blocks would be as good as pitch-pine. A little care, however, on the part of our vigilant Police force would guard against such an incendiary custom—one which would go far to neutralize all the blessings we at present experience in the recurrence of our civic elections.

A blighted being residing in Westport has brought a suit for breach of promise of marriage against a Miss COLEY, who, having stolen away his young affections, gave her own heart to another. This is turning the tables with a vengeance in the breach-of-promise business. That such an action is sustainable by a man against a woman is clear from some very old cases, in Salkeld, modern reports, and so forth. At the same time it is the fair woman rather than the brave man that usually appears as plaintiff in such cases; whether because the gallant is usually satisfied to withdraw, if the lady is, and to let her fix her affections elsewhere, we do not undertake to say. Twenty thousand dollars is the figure at which this Westport young man puts the laceration of his feelings, including wear and tear of heart's ideal. At this rate his *inamorata* must have been to him at least worth her weight in gold—even with gold at 140. Most lovers cannot so accurately estimate the worth of their betrothed and the unselfish intensity of their own sacred passion—which, perhaps, accounts for the infrequency of such suits at law brought by male lovers. Should this case be properly worked up—if America can boast a Snubbin and a Buzfuz in her Bar and a Justice Stareleigh on her Bench, the leading case of Bardell *vs.* Pickwick need not henceforth be more famous than that of Sherwood *vs.* Coley. Meanwhile, let young ladies fond of flirtation take warning not to go too far with young men, lest the plaintive wooer be transformed into a plaintiff for damages, and a suit at law come out of a suit in love.

The London *Athenæum* calls one of Dr. HOLMES' books "a novel without a story;" and it has also been observed that another of our excellent writers has likewise failed in the story part of "Norwood." No doubt these gentlemen did not purpose to rely mainly on plot or passion, and only desired to express the social or critical sentiments which are found to be so interesting to all readers of culture. At the same time, it is a noticeable fact that our American writers of fiction are deficient in the power of telling a story—a production which implies movement, action, passion, things congenial, one would think, to a restless people who are more for moving than for meditating. We are all for action and adventure, and capable of the most vehement outbreak of energetic passion—as our recent history too truly shows; and yet our popular writers present few or none of such characteristics. They are mostly for disquisitions or psychologic subtleties, or social æstheticks, (whatever that word may really mean,) and seldom or never for any of the vigorous impulses and passions lying in the common ways of men. The story and the drama grew together from the beginning. But there are stages of civilization in which they are thought too childish, and unworthy of grave intellects. But they have not yet lost their old charm for the generality of people. LA FONTAINE says:

> The world is old, they say; no doubt of it;
> But, like a child, it wants amusements yet;

It is not because the geographers put us in the *new* world that we should lose the old liking for old amusements. Our writers will yet produce powerful stories of action and passion. And then the drama will be on its legs again.

A brisk religious campaign has opened in Chicago, according to our correspondent, "between the orthodox and liberal Christians." The former, we are told, are "on the aggressive, the latter on the defence." Dr. EVERTS leads the former, and Rev. Mr. COLLYER the latter. We wonder how many changes of sentiment will be the result of this contest. Theological campaigns are seldom illustrated by captures either of large bodies or individuals. Something more, possibly, might be effected by each operating on its own line against the common enemy.

MEXICO.

Late Intelligence from all Parts of the Republic—The Recent Elections—Assassination of Officers—Brigandage.

BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, Monday, Dec. 2 1867.

The latest dispatches from all parts of Mexico, and especially from Guanajuato, Salampec, San Luis de Potosi and Durango, represent that most outrageous interference with the late elections was offered by the military authorities. "Candidates," says one journal, "have been elected at the point of the bayonet." A protest signed by six hundred and thirty-nine citizens has been forwarded to the capital from the City of Durango, the residents of which refused to vote, not because they had renounced their rights, but because they had been deprived of them. In Guanajuato, a leading citizen was imprisoned for expressing his preference for a particular candidate.

The presiding officer of the military commission which sentenced MAXIMILIAN, Col. PLACIDO SANCHEZ, and several other officers, have been assassinated by the men of their regiment, the *Cazadores de Galeana*, while *en route* to Nofralillo. The regiment they commanded was made up of what was known as the "Empress Regiment" during the reign of MAXIMILIAN. After killing these officers the men disbanded and took to the woods. They are well armed, and form another corps of outlaws to cooperate with the many bands already in the field. These outlaws feel so strong, that they very recently attacked a garrisoned town in the interior.

No further developments have been made regarding the plot to overthrow the Matamoras representative of JUAREZ. Col. PALACIOS remains master of the situation, and the conspirators are under strict surveillance. Their rank and importance, together with the knowledge that the people may side with them, saves their lives for the present.

Thousands of dollars have been raised throughout the country in aid of the sufferers from the hurricane of Oct. 7. Subscriptions are coming in daily and from all points, to aid the heroic residents of Matamoras. Nothing has been done for Brownsville except by her own citizens. The removals of the county officers by Gen. REYNOLDS have occasioned no surprise. But two of the appointees have qualified. A rumor, not authenticated, however, is set afloat, that the order of Gen. MOWER's removing certain officials has been revoked.

We learn this evening, by letters from upper country, that the Rancheros, exasperated at being left without protection against the cattle thieves, who are playing havoc on this frontier, have formed themselves into a Vigilance Committee. A few days ago they captured three thieves, who were on the point of escorting a large drove of stolen cattle into Mexico. They hung them on the spot.

Major-Gen. S. W. Crawford.

This distinguished soldier has been appointed to the command of the District of Kentucky—temporarily relieving Gen. BURBANK. The appointment is received with great favor by all parties in Kentucky, and Gen. CRAWFORD consequently enters upon his duties under the most favorable auspices. We quote the following well-merited

AFFAIRS IN LOUISIANA.

Gen. Hancock and the Civil Officers—Gen. Mower—The Constitutional Convention.

From Our Own Correspondent.

NEW-ORLEANS, December, 1867.

The business interests of New-Orleans are much pleased with the doctrine announced by the new District Commander. It is substantially: "That the Constitution and laws of Louisiana, at the date of the Reconstruction act, constituted the provisional government referred to by the law. That this civil authority will continue until modified or superseded by the United States." Whatever may be the undefined powers of the Commandant he does not propose to interfere with the civil authorities, except in such case as may clearly require his action. As an application of this doctrine Gen. HANCOCK has reinstated some of the officers lately removed, thereby showing that he did not consider the causes alleged adequate to justify the act. This first exercise of a consistent and stable rule has given much encouragement to the buinesss interests. They are perfectly indifferent to the political antecedents or present opinions of an official incumbent provided he confines himself to the duties of his office, and performs them honestly and well. But we may ask you, with what dread would New-York look upon the seizure of judgeships and clerkships, and the sheriffalty, as party spoils? With what composure could the merchants and property holders of New-York see those offices, so important to the safety of titles, the collection of debts, and the enforcement of contracts, confided to strangers, to the law and to the land? Did you see the alleged record of an army follower who was paid off with an important clerkship of the courts? Well, he is alleged to be a non-naturalized Englishman and a fugitive from martial law. The editor of a Mobile paper states that within two years past he claimed to be a subject of Great Britain and disclaimed any affiliation with the ultra Radical ideas of the *Tribune*. How can the business interests of a city be intrusted to such itinerants in search of a salary? Yet Federal, State and municipal offices, conventions for the formation of local laws, are intrusted to men who in many cases have barely a year's residence, and who would, on failure of their plans here, quit the South with the same ease that they came here. Now you do not blame us, do you? This is not politics. It is not prejudice. It is the protest of all business men of all parties against the sacrifice of our interests for the pay of partisans.

NEW APPOINTMENTS.

The rumor is that Gen. HANCOCK is deliberating upon the reorganization of our municipal department. He has, it is said, called on some of the most experienced of our merchants to lend their aid to the restoration of confidence. Such men here, as in New-York, have long since refused to touch a public office. Here, as there, they have long since been ignored by the venal and violent men who control American primary politics. Some of them have abstained from voting for many years past. But all men, without respect to party, now call on such men to abjure neutrality and inaction, and accept any official appointment which may protect our wasting interests. You will soon learn whether the united desire of Gen. HANCOCK and the business men of the city, has been successful with these gentlemen.

GEN. MOWER.

It is a little remarkable that our Commandants who have been most proscriptive, have themselves been the victims of their own rule. Gen. MOWER undertook to execute—not the laws of Congress—but the wishes of the ultra Radicals. Long after this whole power of the State had passed into the hands of the colored people, he removed officers as "impediments" to the execution of the law. He even removed a Coroner as an "impediment!" It was very difficult to see how a man whose official duties were limited to the morgue—who may be called on once a fortnight to inspect a body, shot, drowned, or chloroformed, could possibly stand in the way of executing a law for the reorganization of civil government. It was explained, however, by the fact that in case of a vacancy in the Sheriffalty, the Coroner could perform the duties and receive the fees of the Sheriff, and in that view the Coroner becomes an "impediment" in the way of some one else who wished to get into the Sheriff's office by this mode of entrance.

THE CONVENTION.

The proceedings of this body bring to the surface the plans of the most ultra experimentalists in this State and in Washington. Experiments here are made as if in *corpore vili*. One member has proposed the establishment of schools for the races in common. To compel the attendance of white children he proposes that no private schools shall be taught, except such as may be licensed by the State. The object and effect of such an enactment would be to compel white people to send their children to school with the blacks or to rear them untaught. Another member proposes the summary marriage by ordinance of all who may be living in the relation of man and wife; which would doubtless entrap a good many here as elsewhere. Some resist the reparations of the levees, on the ground that the land owners should be compelled to aline or subdivide their estates, some because those land owners are alleged to be in great part disloyal. There are indications here as in other Southern States that taxation shall be *ad valorem*. This will exempt persons from any head tax, except for schools, and impose much the largest part of the taxes upon real estate. The reasoning is that it will compel the subdivision of lands and their assignment to the freedmen. It is an indirect confiscation. It should be obvious, however, even to the authors, that if one man cannot afford to keep land which he has paid for under the tax, the man who buys it from him will experience even a greater difficulty. Perhaps, after the ruin of the first class, the second may be relieved by repealing the land tax. Such are a few of the ideas broached in the Convention. We do not apprehend, however, that they will be enacted, because there are substantial interests represented there both on behalf of labor and capital. It is thought the colored class prefer a compromise under which they can be protected in all their rights, to a war in which "somebody would," undoubtedly, "get hurt." A short time since the Public School Board caused inquiry to be made among the colored people whether they desired the white and colored children to go to school together. The result of this inquiry satisfied them that there was no such wish on their part. One of the colored women said, "No, Sir. I don't want my children to be pounded by dem white boys. I don't send them to school to fight, I send them to learn." The colored people in like manner see their true interests in agriculture are with the land-owners. These things strangers cannot be expected to appreciate, hence the programme of universal alteration procured for the Southern Convention will not be carried out. It will be instructive to your readers to see an illustration of the difference between the carpet-bag reformers and the conservative colored men who know their future must be with the whites. A white member of the Convention having introduced a resolution, which asserted as a matter proper for conventional inquiry, that

Whereas, It has been charged by the enemies of the colored race in the State of Louisiana, that it is the design of the colored race to get control of this State, and destroy the white race therein and Africanize the State.

To this Mr. PINCHBACK, colored, makes the following reply:

He regretted that such resolutions had been presented on this floor; they were out of place and mischievous in their import. In this country there are thirty white men to one black man; therefore it ill becomes the colored men to make violent and intemperate demands. Let them ask for justice, and for nothing more, and let the appeal be made in such a spirit that all people will see the propriety of granting it. Even the slaveholder cannot fail to have his stony heart touched by the humble, humane and even generous conduct of the negro during the war. The appeal was never made by them to violence and revenge, but they trusted all the while to the innate justice of the great American heart. Any one can see the suicidal policy of arraying the black man against the white. This is not a Republican Convention. There is a Republican Party, and it has a Central Executive Committee. Let them attend to such matters as this if they wish to, and let these questions henceforth be kept off this floor that we may give our undivided attention to our legitimate business."

It is rather annoying to see Mr. WENDELL PHILLIPS, who cannot enforce the law of universal abstinence in Massachusetts, undertake to execute a law of universal confiscation and disfranchisement in Louisiana. He cannot make his fellow-citizens renounce a drink of whisky apiece on principle, and yet demands the sacrifice of our whole property and social systems. But we submit to it all in patience.

OUR TRADE.

The commerce of New-Orleans has not revived, and it is to be feared that it cannot under present circumstances. A new and startling feature has just developed itself. The steamer *Kilgour* has just taken from the levee 100 bales of cotton, to be carried to Cairo and shipped by the Blue line, all rail, to New-York, at $5 per bale from Cairo. The time of transportation guaranteed is ten days from New-Orleans to New-York. This is the first act of competition between the inboard and coastwise routes. It involves one consequence not at first obvious. The shipping interest of New-England now gets all the freight coastwise between the North and South. If this new mode of transportation shall succeed, the railroads of the Southern and Middle States will take these freights. It will be a great saving to the Southern railroads, for while we do not relish the direct rail trade between New-York and New-Orleans, so far as it may take away our cotton, we certainly prefer that our own roads shall participate in the carrying trade between the North and South, rather than that it should go to aid a distant—we will not say an inimical—interest. We have no objections, however, to showing those who are always prating about rebels and confiscation that their persecution has not only destroyed the cotton crop, but that the carrying trade has been turned inboard on cars, instead of coastwise by their shipping.

THE DRAMA.

The Varieties is playing the standard drama. They have just dispatched "Casse," and enter to-night upon the "Duchess of Gerolstein." The St. Charles offers a succession of stars, among which LOTTA enlightens the firmament at present. The Academy of Music has put on "Scenes of Enchantment," in which a French ballet troupe delights the spectator, with a brilliant display of the finest figures, unencumbered with any "impediment" to critical vision. The Theatre de l'Opera has thus far proved a great success. The voices are very fresh, pure and powerful. Mlle. AUDIBERT, soprano, and Mons. PICOT, tenore, are perfect of their respective classes. The principal voices are so duplicated with *chanteuses legeres* as to prevent any disappointment to the public. The whole series of the best operatic compositions are being produced, from the "Barber of Seville" to the deep tragedy of "Lucrezia." The management is judicious and the organization of the Opera House complete.

W. M. B.

WASHINGTON.

The Treasury Statement—Revenue Receipts.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 14

THE TREASURY STATEMENT.

The fractional currency received from the Printing Bureau of the Treasury Department for the week ending to-day, amounts to $524,000. The amount forwarded hence was as follows: To the Assistant Treasurer at New-York, $100,000; to the United States Depository at Baltimore, $80,000; to the United States Depository, $25,000, and to the National Banks, $153,675. Total, $356,675. The United States Treasurer holds in trust for the National Banks at this date, the following as security for circulating notes, $341,107,750, and for deposits of public moneys, $37,917,950. The National Bank notes issued during the week were $246,870, and the total amount issued to date is $305,284,756. From this is to be deducted the currency returned, including worn-out notes amounting to $5,528,737, leaving in actual circulation at this date, $299,753,824. The fractional currency reduced and destroyed during the week amounts to $379,400.

INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS.

The receipts from internal revenue during the last week were $2,254,000; to the fiscal year commencing with July, $94,047,000.

THE BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, COLLECTORSHIP.

The Senate has reconsidered the recent rejection of J. WARREN BELL as Collector of Customs at Brownsville, Texas, and his nomination is again before that body to-day for confirmation.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Resumption of Routine Business—Official Corruption—The Judiciary—No Quorum.

From Our Own Correspondent.

ALBANY, Saturday, Dec. 14, 1867.

The Convention, which has been the scene of unwonted life and excitement since the advent of the wide-awake delegation from New-York and Brooklyn, has subsided into its former dignified dullness. With the resumption of railroad travel to New-York these gentlemen have disappeared, the merry laugh and the popping of champagne corks are no longer heard at the hotel tables, and the Convention has resumed its routine of prosy debate over the Judiciary article. The future of the Convention will in all probability be finally settled next Wednesday, to which day the whole question stands adjourned, and whatever course is then taken, there is a growing conviction that the Convention will not continue to sit in Albany. The report of the Committee to inquire into the accommodations to be had, disclosed the fact that no chamber at all adapted to the purposes of the Convention, was to be obtain. in this city. Tweddle Hall, the best of them, might have been had in the day time, but is already engaged in advance for concerts, lectures, &c., for most of the evenings of the season. This has staggered a good many of those who were strongest in their determination to remain at the State Capital. It is, therefore, not improbable that the Convention will agree to finish up the Judiciary articles, and then adjourn over till the Legislature shall by law summon it to meet again, as provided for in the resolution of Mr. CHURCH.

OFFICIAL CORRUPTION.

For one purpose which has been heretofore hinted at, it would be most desirable that the Convention should remain here through the Winter. According to all report and expectation, the next session of the Legislature will afford an admirable field in which to study the practical workings of official corruption. One of the most important, in my view, altogether the most important duty before this Convention, is to provide a check for this great and growing evil. Unfortunately, many of the members will not recognize the plain facts of the case. They cannot believe in the extent of the evil, and to all that is said to them by those who do understand the subject they turn a deaf ear. To these a course of study of practical legislation, as conducted in these days, would prove an invaluable lesson.

THE JUDICIARY.

Mr. PRINDLE'S motion to amend the Judiciary article so that Gen. TERRY, of the Supreme Court, should sit in each of the Judicial departments for the purpose of hearing appeals, such general terms to be composed permanently of the same Judges who should do no other business, having tailed, there remains under consideration no proposition for any vital change in the Supreme Court. The terms of Judges will be extended to fourteen years; they will be chosen from four large departments instead of eight districts as at present, and Judges will be debarred from sitting on the hearing of appeals from their own decisions; otherwise there will be but little change from the present system. The people have certainly looked to this Convention for changes in the Judiciary system much more radical than this.

NO QUORUM AGAIN.

No business was transacted to-day beyond the reading of a long report from the Committee on State Salt Springs. The Convention then adjourned for want of a quorum.

Associated Press Dispatch.

ALBANY, N. Y., Saturday, Dec. 14.

The Convention met at 10 o'clock.

REPORT ON THE STATE SALT WORKS.

Mr. COMSTOCK, from the Committee on Salt Works, made a report. He said that a majority of the Committee were in favor of removing the constitutional provision prohibiting the sale of the Salt Springs. He also said that a majority of the Committee were opposed to placing in the Constitution an increased duty on salt. The report is lengthy, reviewing the whole question of the manufacture and tax on salt, and concludes by recommending the following constitutional provision:

The Legislature may appropriate moneys for the development of the Salt Springs of this State, and to pay the expenses of the care and management of said Springs; of the property of the State connected therewith; of the inspection of salt. But all moneys so expended shall be reimbursed to the Treasury as soon as practicable by a duty on salt. No other or further duty on salt shall be imposed.

(Signed,) GEO. F. COMSTOCK,
I. CONGER.

In the foregoing report, as to the impolicy of imposing, by constitutional provision, an additional tax or duty on salt, believing that the subject belongs to the Legislature, I also concur in the report made by the Chairman of the Committee, so far as the same recommends a removal of the existing restraints upon the sale of the Salt Springs and reservation.

(Signed,) SOLOMON G. YOUNG.

THE ADJOURNMENT QUESTION.

Mr. BICKFORD offered the following:

Whereas, It is now apparent that this Convention will be unable to complete its labors, according to the plan now pursued before the meeting of the Legislature; and *whereas* it will be inconvenient, and to many of us objectionable, either to continue our labors in Albany during the session of the Legislature, or to remove to any other place, or to adjourn till after the session of the Legislature; and *whereas* we believe we may soon complete the article on the Judiciary; and *whereas* the reports and subjects not yet acted upon are not of pressing importance, mostly treating of matters outside of the present Constitution; and *whereas* we are anxious to bring the session of the Convention to a close, a desire which we believe is shared by the people; therefore,

Resolved, That the Convention will, on Monday, Dec. 23, 1867, at 9 o'clock P. M., take a recess until Thursday, Jan. 2, 1868, at 7 o'clock P. M., and that the Committee on Revision be instructed to make their final report at the time last named, and that upon all subjects on which the Convention may not have taken action, the said Committee shall incorporate in their report the provision of the Constitution of 1846; and that the Convention will adjourn *sine die* on Tuesday, Jan. 7, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Laid on the table by consent of the mover.

Adjourned to Monday evening at 7 o'clock.

RECONSTRUCTION.

An Interview of Southern Loyalists with Thaddeus Stevens.

From the Philadelphia Press.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Dec. 13, 1867.

This afternoon at 2 o'clock a delegation of Southern loyalists, composed of white and colored citizens, from Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, called upon Hon. THADDEUS STEVENS, at his residence of Capitol Hill, for the purpose of paying their respects to him, and of obtaining the benefit of his views in regard to Reconstruction. The names of the members are as follows: Cols. C. E Moss and Wardell, (white;) Revs. Fields Cook and George Faveman, (colored,) and George Tucker, of Virginia; Gilbert Pillsbury and E. W. M. Mackey, of South Carolina; B. W. Reynolds and Mr. Henderson, of North Carolina, and James H. Harris and A. H. Galloway, (colored,) of the same State.

The delegation was introduced respectively and separately to Mr. STEVENS, who received them in his chamber in an informal manner, and conversation ensued, with a full interchange of views that appeared to be highly satisfactory to all parties.

Mr. STEVENS, in reply to the regret of one of the delegates that impeachment had failed, said *it was only an evidence of the feebleness of public opinion.* If the Committee had confined themselves to acts of usurpation merely, and presented their report a year ago, he thought there were not ten Republican members who would have voted against it. It was the opinion of some that a Chief Magistrate could only be impeached for indictable offences; but he considered that there was scarcely an indictable offence for which he could not be impeached. If a high official is guilty of wrong, or has violated his trust, he should be removed for the safety of the country. A delegate from Virginia said that the effect of the refusal of the House to favor impeachment would operate very seriously on the work of reconstruction in the South.

Mr. STEVENS said it could not be otherwise.

He then inquired as to the condition of affairs in North Carolina.

Mr. HARRIS, a colored delegate, and a native-born citizen, who has traversed nearly the whole State and addressed a large number of meetings, replied that he thought they would get along very well, and that the white loyalists, the bone and sinew of the laboring classes of the State, were not as much frightened about the question of negro suffrage as the Northern men were.

Mr. STEVENS inquired whether Gov. HOLDEN was Radical enough?

Mr. HARRIS said he was the life-blood of the Republican Party in that State.

A delegate from Virginia said that State was in a very critical condition, and unless Congress speedily adopted some measures for their relief the sufferings of the white and colored Unionists would be terrible.

Mr. STEVENS said *he was in favor of repealing that part of the law of reconstruction which requires a majority of the registered vote.*

The delegate replied that he thought that would be well, and inquired whether a law could not be passed by which the conventions could make a provisional government, to take possession of the State governments immediately, and then, if they defeated their constitutions, they would still be living under loyal governments.

Mr. STEVENS said he had a bill drawn up, in which he had two or three provisions which he thought might be beneficial. The one is that *a bare majority shall affirm or reject the Constitution*; the second, that the two-fifths which have been excluded shall be represented in the first Congress, *by being voted for on a general ticket, or elected as Congressman at large*—as they would not have time to take a census of this part of the population. He proposes still further, that as soon as the Constitution is framed by the delegates, and ready to be submitted to Congress, that *that Convention shall, as an independent body, have power to establish State governments in lieu of the district commanders.*

The delegation in a body said that such legislation would be attended with the best results in the entire South, and *would make an immense difference in the popular vote.*

Mr. STEVENS inquired whether the old masters and neighbors of the colored people would be able to seduce them from a proper discharge of their duty?

Mr. HARRIS said, speaking for North Carolina, that there was but one means by which they could possibly do such a wrong, and that means he felt positive they intended to resort to. The colored people of his State were fully educated and acquainted with the importance of their duty at the polls. At the same time they are *entirely dependent upon their former masters for their daily bread. These masters now hoped to succeed by threatening to turn the colored people out of employment*—to drive them from their farms, and to take from them the means of gaining an honest livelihood, and, as a last resort, to starve them out. But the colored people had implanted in their minds that their salvation depends upon the success of the Republican Party. They are very well informed, and he felt confident they would endure great privation rather than be betrayed by their former oppressors.

Rev. Mr. COOK (colored,) from Richmond, Va., said the remarks of Mr. HARRIS were equally applicable to his own section. Their opponents were determined to make every effort to defeat the ratification of the Constitution, but they hoped to be able to carry it, notwithstanding the efforts of their enemies.

A white delegate said some eight hundred men had already been turned out of employment in Richmond on account of their votes at the late election, and referred to the heroism they had manifested for the sake of their cause. Their Union Leagues had been broken up in Lynchburg by the authorities on the most trifling provocations.

Mr. STEVENS expressed the hope that *the solid Southern vote should be cast for the Republican Party, so as to give the ascendancy and elect the next President*; for if this were secured the work of reconstruction so auspiciously begun, might be triumphantly completed. After some further remarks the delegation retired, well pleased with their interview.

State Finances.

The report of Hon. SANFORD E. CHURCH, Mr. ORDYKE, and other members of the Financial Committee, came up for discussion in the Constitutional Convention the other day, and elicited considerable debate, of which we have, as yet, no report. The Albany *Express*, however, refers to it as follows:

"The Constitutional Convention was enlivened yesterday with a spirited and pungent discussion, in which Mr. FRANCIS, of Troy, backing and supporting the letter of Commissioner WELLS, drove a coach of four right through the vaunted financial report of Mr. CHURCH. Commissioner WELLS in his able letter—which we published at the time—demonstrated that the ghastly calculations of Mr. CHURCH'S report, so frightful to the uninitiated eye, were based altogether upon the assessed valuation of the property of the State, and that this assessed valuation was in fact less than one-fourth of the real valuation. This being so, the calculations would appear not only untruthful as a representation of our condition, but absolutely ridiculous. They exaggerated at least in a quadruple degree. It was not strange, therefore, that the fathers of the report felt sensitive to so incisive an act, and Mr. ORDYKE took occasion to say that the assertion of Mr. WELLS was unfounded, and to intimate that the Commissioner was not the best authority.

This brought Mr. FRANCIS to his feet, in defence of his townsman and friend. He took up the report of the majority and demonstrated that the statements of the Commissioner were literally correct. He cited the exact language of the report, and showed that in every instance where a comparison was made the standard assumed was the assessed valuation. He proved that the declarations of the report about $45 indebtedness against every man in the State, about the taxation amounting to eleven per cent. of the property, and about the State's being mortgaged for a greater sum than its entire property, were the sheerest absurdities, entirely fanciful and unreliable. Even if the estimates of taxation and indebtedness were correct, still the statement of the extent to which they are a burden upon the property was multiplied several times beyond the reality. But those estimates are not correct. The letter of the Commissioner proves incontestibly that they are as egregiously erroneous as the comparative statement.

Mr. FRANCIS forcibly contended that this letter had not been answered, and that no successful answer could be made. His vindication of its positions was luminous and effective, and the distortings of Mr. CHURCH'S report appeared in stronger light than before. Mr. CHURCH attempted to reply, but while he said much he answered nothing. Not a breach was made in the clear and distinct positions of the Commissioner's letter, fortified as they were by a thorough knowledge and grasp of the subject. The truth is, the report was prepared as an electioneering document. It was framed with the hope of deluding the masses who were not expected to give it a critical examination. Undoubtedly it subserved its purpose to some extent, but thanks to Mr. FRANCIS, who drew out the letter of Mr. WELLS and sustained it so strongly himself, the records of the Convention will not be closed up without containing a complete and overwhelming refutation."

Gen. Hancock Compels Obedience to a Writ of Habeas Corpus.

From the New-Orleans Picayune, Dec. 10.

On Saturday night a father and son, known respectively in this community by the names of SIMON M. FRANK WALLECHE and EDMUND F. WALLECHE, who for several months past have been proprietors of the sash and planing mills, called the Mariposa Mills, on St. Joseph-street, were arrested by the Police, under a warrant issued by Gov. FLANDERS, who had received a requisition for them from the Governor of the State of New-York, they being indicted in the City of New-York, it is alleged, with obtaining goods from the merchants there, about eighteen months ago, to the amount of $100,000, by false pretences.

Saturday night Judge COTTON, counsel for the accused, sued out, before Judge THEARD, a writ of *habeas corpus*, returnable this morning at 10 o'clock. It appears, however, that Gen. HANCOCK learned late last evening of the simple fact of the issuance of the writ by a court of competent jurisdiction, and of the probability, under peculiar attendent circumstances, that the writ was not to be respected. He at once went in person to the office of Chief of Police, about 6:30 o'clock, and told Major WILLIAMSON that he had learned that a writ of *habeas corpus* had been issued, and that ow ng to some illegality it was probable that it would not be obeyed; I will hold you responsible in this matter. Those prisoners must be produced. I believe you will produce them, but I will myself take the necessary precaution that they be produced. I have issued an order that the writ of *habeas corpus* is to be observed, and is shall be. I am here to protect the dignity of government, and the rights of the people in this, liberty and property must be preserved. So long as I am a power here, the law shall be respected. I know nothing, Mr. Chief of Police, about this care; do not know what these men are charged with; but it is sufficient for me to know, and you to know, that a writ of *habeas corpus* has been issued, and that writ shall be respected. I will sink the boat in the middle of the river with cannon that takes these men on board, and intercept any train of cars that carries them. If the law is not observed, who and what is safe? I may be taken away, you may be, any of us may be. Justice must be upheld. I hold you, therefore, Mr. Chief of Police, responsible for the delivery of these men before Judge THEARD, in obedience to that writ."

The General then took his departure, and we felt as though we had listened truly to the decenser of law and dignity of government. We don't remember of ever having witnessed a more impressive scene.

The Whisky Tax.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Taxing the capacity of stills is about the most effectual way of collecting the revenue from whisky, provided trustworthy men—not connected with politics—are appointed as officers.

But unless you want legitimate trade destroyed, the law of indiscriminate seizure of properly branded goods must be repealed, otherwise every recifier or wholesale dealer of standing or character will go out of business, which will eventually pass into the hands of unscrupulous parties from whom the Government will get little or nothing.

With a proper law protecting the manufacturers of goods from raw whisky there is not one house of standing who would not aid the Government in driving out every illicit still in the country. They are the destruction of trade, and ruin of legitimate business, and none feel it more than rectifiers and dealers, as there is no fixed price for illicit whisky, the owner selling according to the amount of bribe he has to pay.

Honest officials will not allow raw whisky to pass from their hands, or brand packages till the law is strictly complied with, but those brands must be security for purchasers in open market, without being subject to seizure or jeopardizing innocent parties in their business. The seizure law, as it now stands, is absurd and oppressive, putting the Government to enormous expense for multiplied numbers of black-mailing officials, without being any benefit to the treasury. On calm reflection you will, no doubt, acknowledge the correctness of these remarks. Very truly, T.

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE

George Francis Train, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony at Steinway Hall.

Last evening a fair audience assembled at Steinway Hall, for the purpose of listening to the champions of woman's rights. Before the speaking commenced Mr. NORTON favored the audience with selections on the organ. At 8 o'clock Mr. TRAIN, accompanied by Mrs. STANTON and Mrs. ANTHONY, and one or two others, appeared upon the platform and was greeted with cheers.

Mr. TRAIN, on stepping forward, said that the age of steamships, railroads, telegraphs and other great improvements had come. We were running rapidly forward, and he would show his hearers that they were living in a new age. Slavery had passed away from the nation [applause] and now we should say New America and not Old America. In order to convince the audience that the nation was going ahead, he would allude to his recent trip to the West. The speaker then gave a graphic description of his experience on that occasion and spoke of the speeches that he had made in different places in support of the sentiments which he would there advocate. In referring to the growth of the country he asked why the capitol should not be in the centre of the nation? In course of time, he argued the capital would be at Columbus. In reverting to the subject of women's rights, Mr. TRAIN said he was, with Mrs. STANTON and Mrs. ANTHONY, in Kansas, speaking in behalf of their sex. But their old friends—GREELEY, PHILLIPS, TILTON, and others had left them to fight out their own cause. He denounced them for this cowardly act. In Kansas the speaker told the people he was first for women, and then for blacks. It was partly through his efforts that 7,000 votes were given in that State in favor of the rights of women. [Cheers.] Mr. TRAIN next touched upon the influence of the New York Press, and wanted to know how it was that four newspapers wielded such a vast influence. He thought it hard they should be so ready to give space to dog-fights and to toadyism, and withhold their columns from the champions of morality, honesty and integrity. He took the ground that the only Americans in New-York were the Irish, and then gave them credit for what they had done and were doing to free Ireland. He then spoke of his personal exploits in the far West, and introduced an epigram of his own composition. Were he a real Christian, like BEECHER or GOUGH, he would advocate the claims of women for the pupose of putting money in his pocket. BEECHER charged the Association $100 for a lecture. That was neither just nor right. Mr. TRAIN then gave the details of his journey from West to East, and spoke of the speeches which had been made by the ladies who were on the platform with him. After speaking in Boston, Hartford, and other places he came to New-York to break the ice and introduce the ladies. He concluded by introducing to the audience ELIZABETH CADY STANTON. Mrs. STANTON said that the rights of women had been maintained in Kansas, and that, too, without the aid of the Press. In time all the States would be as liberal as Kansas. She then pointed to the improvement already noticeable in that State through the influence of women. It was evident that the Nineteenth Century wanted something new in the way of government. This was an age of progress. It had been said that women did not want to vote, but she had never talked five minutes with a woman about bread and the ballot, when the woman did not express her readiness to vote. The speaker then said the question was, should women have a voice in making the laws of the country. The ballot, too, should be guarded, for on it depends the stability and safety of our institutions, and women with a right to vote would see that the ballot-box was guarded. She asked a vote for woman because she wanted her to have a voice in the criminal legislation of the land. Were women in Congress the country would not be disgraced as it now is. As to Mr. BEECHER, the speaker thought Mr. TRAIN had not done him justice. He had been true to the cause, and she was not willing Mr. TRAIN should say what he had without her contradiction. She next gave Mr. GREELEY a severe hit for his abandonment of the cause of the Constitutional Convention, and closed by appealing to the men of New-York to give their aid toward advancing the rights of women in this State.

Mr. NORTON, by the request of Mr. TRAIN, then performed on the organ "The Wearing of the Green."

Mr. TRAIN again spoke, taking National affairs for his topic. He reviewed the course of BEECHER and PHILLIPS, and gave numerous reasons why women should be allowed the right of suffrage.

Mrs. ANTHONY then made a few remarks, after which Mr. TRAIN spoke for the third time, concluding his speech by nominating himself for the Presidency of the United States.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

THE LATE VALENTINE MOTT, M. D.—A large and intelligent audience gathered last evening in the lecture hall of the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, to listen to an address by Prof. S. D. GROSS, of Philadelphia, on the Life and Character of the late Prof. VALENTINE MOTT. The speaker commenced by saying that in delivering this eulogy he was redeeming a promise made in the Summer of 1862, that if Dr. MOTT should die before him he would remember him thus. Prof. MOTT, he said, was born at Glen Cove, L. I., on the 20th of August, 1785, and was of Quaker parentage. He received a classical education at a private seminary in Newtown, L. I. In 180[illegible] he commenced to study medicine under the renowned VALENTINE SEAMAN. After two full courses he received his degree, after which, in 1807, he went to London, where he became the pupil of Sir ASTLEY COOPER. Hence he went to Edinburgh, where he entered a medical school of the highest reputation. In 1819 he returned to New-York, and began the practice of his profession, soon acquiring the *sobriquet* of the "handsome young Quaker doctor." He was afterward appointed one of the Faculty of Columbia, and then of Rutger's College, remaining in the latter institution until 1834, when he resigned and went to Europe for his health. Six years afterward he returned again to this City, and in 1850 he was appointed Professor of Surgical Anatomy and Pathology. Here he served until he was transferred to the New-York University, where he became *Emeritus* Professor of Surgery, and continued in that honorable position until the time of his death, in 1865. The speaker mentioned, also, Dr. MOTT'S valuable contributions to literature, and closed with a representation of the spotless character of the deceased—appealing to young men entering upon the profession to emulate the virtues of their distinguished friend who has gone to his rest.

FIRES.—At about 4 o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out on the second floor of No. 49 Deystreet, and owing to the snow in the street the engines could not get to work before the flames had gained such headway that the entire interior of the building was burned out. The first floor was occupied by C. H. DENNISON, sugar dealer; loss $500, insured for $3,500 in the Star; and THOS. WILSON, dealer in liquors, &c., who sustains a loss of $1,000; no insurance. The second floor was occupied by WM. ROBINSON, dealer in shoes, whose stock was damaged to the ex ent of $400; insured for $5,000 in the Albany City and Norwich. The third floor was occupied by WM. FOSTER, manufacturer of fancy boxes; loss $1,000, insured for $2,000 in the Firemen's Fund. Building is owned by Mr. DUNSCOMB; loss $2,000; insured.... At 12:30 o'clock another fire occurred on the fourth floor of the rear building. Nos. 4 and 6 Liberty-place, occupied by HENRY VAN KIRK as metal chaser, being caused by a pot of cement which was heating on the stove being set on fire. JOHN DRINAN, a boy, had his hands and face severely burned in trying to extinguish the flames. Mr. VAN KIRK sustains a loss of $500; no insurance. The third and fifth floors are occupied by G. W. WICKS, machinist, who sustains a loss of $3,000; insured for $8,000 in the St. Marks, Metropolitan, Commonwealth, and Park. The building is owned by GEO. W. PLATT, and is damaged to the extent of $1,500; no insurance. At 8:30 o'clock yesterday morning the flooring around the stove-pipe accidentally caught fire at No. 76 Maiden-lane. The flames were extinguished by the Police.... At 4:40 o'clock P. M., a fourth fire occurred on the third floor of No. 542 Pearl-street, occupied by J. H. ADAMS & Co. as a perfumery manufactory, but the flames were extinguished with trifling damage. The fire was caused by the explosion of a kerosene oil lamp.

CITY ACCIDENTS.—MARY O'GRAY, of No. 11 Elizabeth-street, was severely scalded yesterday by the explosion of a can of varnish, while she was heating the utensil, preparatory to cleaning it. She was taken to Bellevue Hospital.... WM. DAUSON, aged 16 years, had his hand crushed at No. 94 Bowery, and was sent to Bellevue Hospital.... H. WESENDONCH had his foot run over by a Sixth-avenue car, (No. 17,) and sustained a severe injury.... An unknown man accidentally fell off Pier No. 23 North River, yesterday, and was drowned. The body was recovered by Officer O'CONNELL.... THOS. FAY, a boy, was run over by a coach on the corner of Beekman-street and Park-row and slightly injured. He was sent home.... No. 204 Avenue B.... Last evening a sleigh containing two men, both of whom were intoxicated, was driven by them against a pile of brick on the corner of Forty-eighth-street and Fifth-avenue, when one of the occupants was struck on the head and severely hurt. He was moved to Bellevue Hospital. The other man, JOHN SPEARS, was arrested and locked up on a charge of intoxication by the Nineteenth Precinct Police. The horse ran off.

HOLIDAY AUCTION SALES AT LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO.'S.—A large catalogue of miscellaneous books for the holidays was sold last evening at the auction-rooms of LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO., in Clinton Hall. The bidding was quite spirited, and, as a general thing, good prices were realized. On Monday and Tuesday evenings of this week there will be sold at the same place a rare collection of autograph letters, documents and signatures, both American and European. On Thursday evening the house will sell a private library of three hundred volumes or more, comprising a rare collection of books on America. On Saturday evening, Dec. 21, the annual sale of the Artists' Fund Society will take place. The works of art continue to the fund this year in number nearly one hundred, and comprise the names of all the leading American artists. The pictures will be on exhibition all this week at the elegant picture gallery just completed by LEAVITT, STREBEIGH & CO., adjoining their auction-rooms in Clinton Hall.

EXHIBITION OF MARBLES, BRONZES AND ARTICLES OF VERTU.—To-morrow an unusually fine collection of marbles, bronzes and other works of this kind will be exhibited at Messrs. MINER & SOMERVILLE'S salesrooms, Nassau-street. Among the most attractive of the series of statuary are: "A Nymph Crossing the River Arno," by FRANCHINI; a group, "Cupid Hunting," by FINELLI; the "Orphan," by D. CARUSSI: "Saint John," by F. BENEMI; "Innocence," by DUCCI; "Diana," by PANIPOLI; a "Dancing Girl," by FRANZONI; "Rebecca," by PRELLINI, and a bust—the "Veiled Woman"—by LAZZARINI. Among bronzes there are several fine groups and figures standing four feet high—dancers, gladiators and warriors. There are also some fine specimens of Florentine, mosaic and other objects of interest to lovers of the beautiful. The exhibition will continue for three days.

THE JEWISH FAIR.—For some time past extensive preparations have been made for a grand Jewish Fair, which is to come off at Allemania Hall, in East Sixteenth-street, on the 16th inst. A committee composed of the most influential and wealthy portion of our Hebrew community have the matter in charge, and they are determined to leave nothing undone to render it the attraction of the season. As the proceeds are to be applied for the relief of the destitute poor and needy, it is to be hoped that it will receive due patronage from all classes. There will be everything for sale, from a pin to a house, while the ladies in charge of the stands have prepared many pretty toys for the holidays, all of which will be disposed of quite reasonably. The last night of the fair will be signalized by a grand ball, to be succeeded by an amateur dramatic entertainment. Judge CARDOZE will open the fair with an oration.

CORONERS' CASES.—Coroner GOVER held an inquest yesterday over the body of HENRY W. NICHOLS who was arrested on Friday evening by Officer EDWARDS, of the Third Precinct, apparently in a state of intoxication. The prisoner was locked up in a cell, and at 3 A. M. yesterday morning, the doorman discovered that he was dead. A verdict of death by paralysis was rendered. Deceased was employed as a clerk in the *Daily News* office..... THEODORE M. FISKE, of No. 4 West Thirteenth-street, died very suddenly on Friday evening, from the effects of a fall in front of his residence, which accelerated the action of heart disease. Coroner SCHRIMER held an inquest. Deceased was sixty-five years of age and a native of this City.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION CEREMONIES.—Friday evening Mr. GEO. S. CHAMBERS was ordained a minister of the Gospel and installed as Pastor of the Ebenezer Church, the ceremonies taking place at the hall of the Historical Society. After singing and prayer, a very effective sermon, on true Christian piety, was preached by Rev. Mr. KELLOGG. Rev. Dr. WILEY then offered the consecrating prayer, which was followed by the charge to the pastor, delivered by Rev. Dr. CAMPBELL, and the charge to the people, by Rev. Dr. HALL. The proceedings were presided over by Rev. Mr. ANNEN. The hall was filled, and much interest was manifested be the congregation.

A JOYOUS TIN WEDDING.—On Wednesday evening last, a merry party of ladies and gentlemen gathered at the house of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. ORMSBY, at No. 288 West Seventeenth-street, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the marriage of their hosts. The guests were well supplied with a variety of tinware, which they bestowed upon the happy pair. Among the gifts was one to the fair bride, by Mr. WM. H. RICKETTS, of a magnificent set of tin jewelry composed of beautiful brilliants, set in tin in a very artistic manner. After a very pleasant evening passed in singing, dancing and conversation, the company separated.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE.—The Sheriff elect, Mr. JAMES O'BRIEN, yesterday made the following appointments: Under-Sheriff, John T. Cumming; General Deputies, Bernard Reilly, James Ryan, John Brice, Joseph Cornell, Peter Mc

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange—Dec. 14

$20,000 U.S. 6s '81, C. 110⅝
40,000 do 111⅜
5,000 U.S. 5s 5-20s, C. '62 107⅜
10,000 do 107⅜
5,000 U.S. 6s 5-20s, R. '65. 104
6,000 U.S. 6s, 5-20s, C. 104⅝
10,000 do 104⅝
7,000 U.S. 5-20s, C. '65 new 107⅜
10,000 U.S. 5s, 10-40, C. 101⅝
10,000 do 100⅝
3,000 Tr. Not., 7 3-10s, 3d Ser. 104⅝
4,000 Tenn. 5t.6s, n.c. 65⅝
10,000 Tenn.5t.6s, new. 65⅞
6,000 N.C.5 6s, n.c. 53
20,000 Mo. 5t. 6s 56
3,000 Virginia 6s, n c. 47
4,500 Ill. Cen. Bds. 118
1,000 C. & N. W. Con'd Conv. 6s 82
3,000 At. & T.H.2d Pr 82⅝
1,000 P., Ft.W.& C.1st 106
3,000 P., Ft.W. & C. 2d 92⅝
3,000 P. Ft.W. & C. 3d 88
3,000 Cl. & Pitts. 3d M. 97
1,000 Tol. P. & W. 1st 77⅞
1,000 Morris & Es.1st M. 95⅞
25 Merchants' Bk 117⅝
40 Chatham Bank 145
78 Del. & Hud. Ca. 148
110 Atlantic Mail 118⅝
500 Pac. Mail 123
100 do 123⅝
100 do b10 125
100 do 123
200 do 123⅛
10 do .10 call 123⅝
100 do 123⅝
100 do .s10 123⅛
100 do .s33 123⅝
100 do 123⅝
100 Reading R. 93⅛
100 do .s60 94
200 N. Y. C. & H. 125
20 Wells, Fargo & Co. 54
15 Mich. So. & N. I. R. 81⅜
100 P., F. W. & Chi. 95⅞

SECOND BOARD.

$4,000 Tenn 6s, ex-c. 65⅛
1,000 Cal. 7s 127
1,000 Mo. 6s, Pac. R. issue 96⅛
50 West. U. Tel. 81
100 Quicksilver 20
100 Mar. Min. Co. 85
200 Pacific Mail 123⅜
50 do 123⅞
10 Adams ex. Co. 78
100 do 78⅛
100 do 78⅛
2 Amer. Ex. 77
1 do 76⅞
450 N. Y. Cen. R. 116⅛
12 0 do 116⅞
100 do b30 117

OPEN BOARD—10 A. M.

100 Canton Co. 45⅛
100 do b30 45⅜
100 do 45⅛
100 do .s30 45⅛
120 Am. Ex. Co. 77⅛
40 do 77⅜
30 Adams Ex. 78
50 do 78⅛
10 do 78⅜
100 do 78⅛
100 do 78⅛
2 Amer. Ex. 77
1 do 76⅞
450 N. Y. Cen. R. 116⅛
100 do 116⅜
200 U. S. Ex. Co. 78

OPEN BOARD—10 A. M.

100 Harlem R. R. s60 116
100 do b30 45⅜
100 do 45⅛
100 do .s30 45⅛
120 Am. Ex. Co. 77⅛
40 do 77⅜
30 Adams Ex. 78
50 do 78⅛
10 do 78⅜
100 do 78⅛
100 do 78⅛
2 Amer. Ex. 77
1 do 76⅞
450 N. Y. Cen. R. 116⅛
100 do 116⅜
200 U. S. Ex. Co. 78

OPEN BOARD—2 P. M.

100 Wells Fargo Ex. 54⅛
100 Mer. Union Tel. 34
50 do .s30 34⅛
10 Marmora Co. 14⅜
0 Mar. Min. Co. .s15 82
100 W. U. Tel. 37
100 N. Y. Cen. 116⅝
1 0 do .10 116⅝
100 do 116⅝
100 do 116⅝
100 Erie R. .s30 73⅛
100 do 73⅛
100 Reading R. 93⅛
100 Mich. Cen. R. .s30 116⅝
100 Mich. So. & N. I. R. 81⅜
100 Pacific Mail 123⅜
100 do 123⅝
100 do 123⅜
100 do 123⅝
100 do 123⅜
100 do 123⅝
100 do

SHIPPING.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE.

THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAMSHIPS, BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT BREST.

The splendid new vessels on this favorite route for the Continent will sail from Pier No. 50 North River, as follows:

LAFAYETTE.....DUCHESNE.....SATURDAY, Dec. 14
VILLE DE PARIS.SURMONT.....SATURDAY, Dec. 28
EUROPE.....LEMARIE.....SATURDAY, Jan. 11
ST. LAURENT.....BOCANDE.....SATURDAY, Jan. 25

PRICE OF PASSAGE IN GOLD, (including wine,)
TO BREST OR HAVRE,
First cabin, $160; second cabin, $95.
TO PARIS,
including railway tickets, furnished on board,
First cabin, $165; second cabin, $98.

These steamers do not carry steerage passengers.

Medical attendance free of charge.

American travelers going to or returning from the continent of Europe, by taking the steamers of this line, avoid unnecessary risks from transit by English railways and crossing the channel, besides saving time, trouble and expense.

GEO. MACKENZIE, Agent, No. 58 Broadway.

LONDON AND NEW-YORK STEAMSHIP LINE.

Passage to London direct, $110, $120 and $130 currency.

Excursion tickets at reduced rates available for six months.

CELLA, Capt. GLEADELL, from New-York, Dec. 14.
ATALANTA, Capt. PINKHAM, from New-York, Dec. 28.
BELLONA, Capt. DIXON, from New-York, Jan. 11.
WM. PENN, Capt. BILLINGE, from New-York, Jan 25.

The elegant British iron steamship CELLA will leave Pier No. 3, North River, for London direct, on SATURDAY, Dec. 14, at 8 A. M.

Freight will be taken and through bills of lading given to Havre, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Dunkirk.

For passage apply to ROBERT N. CLARK, No. 26 Broadway.

For freight apply at No. 54 South-st.
HOWLAND & ASPINWALL, Agents.

SAFETY, SPEED AND COMFORT.

FURTHER REDUCTION IN PASSAGE RATES.

Favorite passenger steamers of the ANCHOR LINE sail every SATURDAY with passengers for
LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW AND DERRY.
COLUMBIA, CARNAGHAN, SATURDAY, Dec. 21.
CALEDONIA, MACDONALD, SATURDAY, Dec. 28.
IOWA, HEDDERWICK, SATURDAY, Jan. 4.
From Pier No. 6 North River, at noon.

Rates of passage, payable in currency:

To Liverpool, Glasgow and Derry, cabins, $90 and $75, according to location.

Excursion tickets, good for twelve months, $163.

Intermediate, $55; Steerage, $25.

Prepaid certificates from these ports, $35.

Passengers booked to and from Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Havre, &c., at very low rates.

For further information apply at the Company's office, No. 6 Bowling-green, New-York.

FRANCIS MACDONALD & CO., Agents.

To avoid imposition, passengers will please come direct to the office, as this Company does not employ runners.

CUNARD LINE OF EXTRA STEAMERS.

BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT QUEENSTOWN.

FROM NEW-YORK EVERY WEDNESDAY

HECLA.....Dec. 18
TARIFA.....Dec. 25

RATES OF PASSAGE:

Cabin.....$80 Gold.
Steerage.....$25 Currency.

Steerage tickets from Liverpool or Queenstown $30 currency.

For Steerage Passage, apply at No. 69 Broadway.

For Freight and Cabin Passage, at No. 4 Bowling-green.

E. CUNARD.

NEW-YORK & BREMEN STEAMSHIP CO.

THE CHEAPEST LINE.

Steamships ATLANTIC, BALTIC and WESTERN WORLD,

FOR SOUTHAMPTON, HAVRE AND BREMEN.

First cabin $100; second cabin, $65; steerage, $35, Gold.

The right is reserved of discontinuing this line during the Winter months, extra departures will be advertised.

For freight, expressage, bills of exchange or passage apply to ISAAC TAYLOR, President, 40 Broadway.

LIVERPOOL AND GREAT WESTERN STEAM COMPANY.

The following FIRST-CLASS IRON STEAMSHIPS, built expressly for the New-York trade, are intended to sail regularly between NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, sailing at QUEENSTOWN, viz.:

MANHATTAN, MINNESOTA,
CHICAGO, NEBRASKA,

with other first-class steamers building. To sail:

MINNESOTA.....WEDNESDAY, Dec. 18
CHICAGO.....WEDNESDAY, Jan. 1
NEBRASKA.....WEDNESDAY, Jan. 15

From Pier No. 3, East River.

Cabin, (the accommodations being equal to any Atlantic steamer,) $80, gold; return tickets, $150, gold; in steerage, $25, currency.

Tickets to bring out passengers from Europe can be obtained on reasonable terms. Special freight or passage apply to WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 71 Wall-st.

For steerage passage to
WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 29 Broadway.

THE NATIONAL LINE.

Steamers weekly to Liverpool and Queenstown, leaving Pier No. 47 North River, every SATURDAY

ERIN.....SATURDAY, Dec. 14
CITY OF BOSTON.....SATURDAY, Dec. 21
CITY OF ANTWERP.....SATURDAY, Dec. 28
CITY OF LONDON.....SATURDAY, Jan. 4
CITY OF WASHINGTON.....SATURDAY, Jan. 11

and each succeeding SATURDAY and WEDNESDAY, at noon, from Pier No. 45 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE:

By the mail steamer sailing every Saturday.

PAYABLE IN GOLD.		PAYABLE IN CURRENCY.	
First Cabin to Liverpool	$100	Steerage	$30
First Cabin to London	105	Steerage to London	35
First Cabin to Paris	115	Steerage to Paris	45

Passage by the Wednesday steamers, first cabin, $110; steerage, $35. Payable in United States Currency.

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Hamburg, Bremen, &c., at moderate rates.

Steerage passage from Liverpool or Queenstown, $40 currency. Tickets can be bought here by persons sending for their friends.

For further information, apply at the Company's office. JOHN G. DALE, Agent,
No. 15 Broadway, New-York.
Philadelphia office, No. 411 Chestnut-st.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS.

BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR:

BETWEEN BOSTON AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT HALIFAX AND COBH HARBOR.

CUBA leaves Boston, Wednesday, Dec. 4.
PERSIA leaves New-York, Wednesday, Dec. 11.
CHINA leaves Boston, Wednesday, Dec. 18.
RUSSIA leaves New-York, Wednesday, Dec. 25.
JAVA leaves Boston, Wednesday, Jan. 1.
SCOTIA leaves New-York, Wednesday, Jan. 8.

FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage	$150
Second Cabin Passage	80

FROM NEW-YORK TO PARIS

Chief Cabin Passage	$165
Second Cabin Passage	90

FROM BOSTON TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage	$125
Second Cabin Passage	70

Payable in Gold.

Berths not secured until paid for.

An experienced surgeon on board.

The owners of these ships will not be accountable for specie or valuables unless bills of lading having the value expressed are signed therefor.

For freight or passage, apply to
E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling-green.

FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRAZIL.

UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

REGULAR MAIL STEAMERS sailing on the 23d of every month:

GUIDING STAR, Capt. GEO. B. SLOCUM, Dec. 23.
NORTH AMERICA, Capt. L. F. TIMMERMAN, Jan. 23.
SOUTH AMERICA, Capt. E. L. FINKLEPAUGH, Feb. 23.

These elegant steamers sail on schedule time, and call at St. Thomas, Para, Pernambuco, Bahia and Rio de Janeiro, going and returning. For engagement of freight or passage, apply to GARRISON & ALLEN, Agents, No. 5 Bowling-green, New-York.

UNITED STATES MAIL TO HAVANA.

ATLANTIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

SAILING REGULARLY EVERY THURSDAY, AT 3 O'CLOCK P. M. PRECISELY, FROM PIER No. 4, NORTH RIVER.

MORRO CASTLE, Capt. RICE ADAMS, Dec. 19.
COLUMBIA, Capt. D. B. BARTON, Dec. 26.
EAGLE, Capt. M. R. GREENE, Jan. 2.

For freight or passage, apply to
GEO. R. HARTSON, President,
No. 5 Bowling-green, New-York.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A contract has been concluded with the Atlantic Mail Steamship Company, and that the Royal Mail service between New-York and Nassau, Bahamas and Havana, will on and after the 30th day of January, 1868, be performed by that Company.

T. DARLING,
B. L. BURNSIDE,
Commissioners.

SISAL AND VERA CRUZ.

UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMSHIP MOUNT VERNON,

Will sail for above ports from
PIER No. 28 NORTH RIVER,
on SATURDAY, Dec. 21, at 3 P. M.

For freight or passage
Apply to
F. ALEXANDRE & SONS,
No. 44 Beaver-st.

SISAL AND VERA CRUZ.

MEXICAN MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

The elegant first-class iron steamship
GEORGIA,
JOHN DEAKEN, Commander,
will leave Pier No. 39, East River, as above, on SATURDAY, Dec. 21, at 3 P. M.

For freight of passage apply to
E. W. TURNER, Agent, No. 26 Broadway.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.

EVERY THURSDAY.

REDUCED RATES OF FREIGHT.

Measurement goods, 5 cents per cubic foot.

The Atlantic Coast Mail Steamship Company's side-wheel steamships

HERMAN LIVINGSTON, Capt. EATON, sails THURSDAY, Dec. 19,

From Pier No. 36 North River, at 3 P. M. precisely, giving through passage tickets over the Central Railroad of Georgia, and Atlantic and Gulf Railroad, to points in the interior, and by Florida steamers to points on the coast of Florida.

For freight or passage apply to
LIVINGSTON, FOX & CO., Agents,
No. 88 Liberty-st.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.

BLACK STAR INDEPENDENT LINE.

Steamship MONTGOMERY, LYONS, Commander, leaves SATURDAY, Dec. 14.

Steamship HUNTSVILLE, CROWELL, Commander, leaves SATURDAY, Dec. 21.

At 3 P. M., from Pier No. 13 North River.

E. LOWDEN, Agent, No. 93 West-st.

Through passage tickets given over the Central R. R. of Georgia and Atlantic and Gulf R. R., Florida, to all points in the interior, at lower rates than by any other line.

OUTSIDE STEAMER FOR BALTIMORE.

MERCHANTS' DISPATCH LINE.

TUESDAY, Dec. 17, at 2 P. M.

The steamship PROMETHEUS, Capt. F. M. HARRIS, is now loading at Pier No. 8 North River, and will sail as above. Freight forwarded free of commissions. Bills lading signed on the pier, or at the office of
WHEELER & LINNARD,
No. 13 Broadway.

FOR NEW-ORLEANS DIRECT — THE CROMWELL LINE.—Steamships of this line will leave Pier No. 5, N. R., at 3 o'clock P. M., as follows:

GEN. MEADE, SATURDAY, Dec. 21.
GEO. CROMWELL, SATURDAY, Dec. 28.

For passage or freight, apply to
H. B. CROMWELL & CO., No. 86 West-st.

SHIPPING.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S

THROUGH LINE TO

CALIFORNIA AND CHINA,

CARRYING UNITED STATES MAIL VIA PANAMA RAILROAD.

FREIGHT AND PASSAGE AT GREATLY REDUCED RATES.

Steamers leave Pier No. 42 North River, foot of Canal-st., at 12 o'clock, noon, as follows:

NOV. 30—ARIZONA, Capt. MAURY, connecting with MONTANA, Capt. FARNSWORTH.
Dec. 11—HENRY CHAUNCEY, Capt. GRAY, connecting with GOLDEN CITY, Capt. LAPIDGE.
Dec. 21—RISING STAR, Capt. CONNER, connecting with SACRAMENTO, Capt. PARKER.

150 pounds baggage allowed free to each adult passenger. Medicines and attendance free.

All departures touch at Acapulco; those of 1st and 21st connect at Panama with steamers for South Pacific ports; 1st and 11th for Central American Ports, and those of 1st touch at Manzanillo.

Departure of 11th of each month connects with the new steam line from Panama to Australia and New-Zealand.

FOR JAPAN AND CHINA.

Steamer of Dec. 21 connects closely with steamer CHINA, from San Francisco, Jan. 13; at Yokohama with steamers NEW YORK for Hong Kong, and COSTA RICA for Nagasaki and Shanghae.

For passage tickets and all further information apply at the office on the wharf, foot of Canal-st., North River, New-York.

F. R. BABY, Agent.

FOR CALIFORNIA VIA PANAMA.

REDUCED RATES OF FREIGHT.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company's Steamer RISING STAR will sail on SATURDAY, Dec. 21, at 12 o'clock, noon. Freight received until Friday at 3 P. M.

For rates, &c., inquire at freight office on Company's Pier, No. 42 North River, foot of Canal-st.

WELLS FARGO & CO.,
Sole Freight Agents P. M. S. S. Co.

REGULAR LINE

FOR GALVESTON, TEXAS, DIRECT.

The splendid steamship
TYBEE,
D. CAULKINS Commander,
will leave Pier No. 4 North River, on SATURDAY, Dec. 21, at 3 o'clock P. M. precisely, for Galveston.

For freight or passage, having superior accommodations, apply to SPOFFORD, TILESTON & CO.,
No. 29 Broadway.

N. B.—Goods forwarded to the interior by railroad, without charge for drayage in Galveston. Also, to Indianola and Lavaca without charge for forwarding.

FOR NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH.

OLD DOMINION STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

One of the elegant steamships of this Company will leave Pier No. 37 North River, foot of Beach-st., every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 3 P. M., connecting with the Richmond and Danville, Virginia Central, and Petersburgh and Weldon Railroads.

For freight or passage apply to
L. McCREADY, President,
No. 187 Greenwich-st., corner of Dey-st.

Bills of lading signed on the pier.

FOR CITY POINT AND RICHMOND.

OLD DOMINION STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

One of the elegant steamships of this Company will leave Pier No. 37 North River, foot of Beach-st., every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 3 P. M., connecting with the Richmond and Danville, Virginia Central, and Petersburgh and Weldon Railroads.

For freight or passage apply to
L. McCREADY, President,
No. 187 Greenwich-st., corner of Dey-st.

Bills of lading signed on the pier.

FOR CHARLESTON, S. C., AND FLORIDA PORTS—PEOPLES' MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY EVERY THURSDAY.

MONEKA, Capt. SHACKFORD, THURSDAY, Dec. 19.
E. B. SOUDER, Capt. LEBBY, THURSDAY, Dec. 26,
from Pier No. 4 North River, at 3 P. M. Through passage tickets and bills of lading issued to all points south, in connection with the South Carolina Railroad.

For freight or passage apply to
WHEELER & LINNARD, Agents, 13 Broadway.

REGULAR LINE FOR CHARLESTON, S. C., THE FLORIDA PORTS AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST.—The fast and popular steamship SARAGOSSA, M. B. CROWELL, Commander, will be dispatched for the above ports, on THURSDAY, Dec. 26, at 3 P. M., from Pier No. 14 East River, foot of Wall-st.

Bills of lading signed for all points on the South Carolina and connecting railroads.

The new steamer MARIA is now being refitted for the Winter service, and will sail on the following SATURDAY.

ARTHUR LEARY, No. 73 William-st.

STAR LINE FOR NEW-ORLEANS.—THE NEW-YORK MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY'S fine ocean steamers will leave Pier No. 46 North River, at 3 P. M., as follows:

MONTEZUMA, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 18.

All bills of lading signed at the office upon the pier.

For freight or passage apply to GEO. S. HARTSON, President, No. 5 Bowling-green.

UNITED STATES PASSPORT BUREAU. U. S. States passports indispensable to travelers, issued by J. S. JONES, Passport Agent, 262 Broadway.

STEAMBOATS.

BRISTOL LINE.

FOR

BOSTON AND PROVIDENCE,

VIA BRISTOL, R. I.,

FROM PIER NO. 40 NORTH RIVER.

The magnificent steamers BRISTOL, Capt. BRAYTON, and PROVIDENCE, Capt. SIMMONS, at 5 P. M. daily.

Only one hour and thirty minutes by rail from Bristol to Boston. Arriving in Boston in ample time to connect with Northern and Eastern trains.

These steamers are the largest, staunchest and most elegant ever placed upon the American waters. In the number and size of their state-rooms, and extent and splendor of their accommodations, they are unrivaled.

Tickets sold and staterooms secured at the office, on Pier No. 40 North River, near foot of Canal-st. Also, tickets sold and baggage checked through at the office of Westcott's Express Company, No. 3 Park-row, and Nos. 785 and 945 Broadway; Harlem Railroad Depot, 26th-st. and 4th-av.; Hudson River Railroad Depot, 30th-st. and 9th-av., New-York; No. 239 Washington-st., Brooklyn.

By purchasing tickets at any of these offices, baggage can be checked from residence to destination.

H. O. BRIGGS, General Manager.

GEO. W. TIERS, Agent.

SHREWSBURY, LONG BRANCH AND RED BANK.

The favorite steamboat METAMORA will leave pier foot of Barclay-st., short pier, as follows:

LEAVE NEW-YORK.		LEAVE RED BANK.	
Thursday, Dec. 5,	3 P. M.	Wednesday, Dec. 4,	9 A. M.
Saturday, Dec. 7,	1 P. M.	Friday, Dec. 6,	10:30 A. M.
Tuesday, Dec. 10,	1 P. M.	Monday, Dec. 9,	12:20 P. M.
Thursday, Dec. 12,	3 P. M.	Wednesday, Dec. 11,	7 A. M.
Saturday, Dec. 14,	9 A. M.	Friday, Dec. 13,	7:30 A. M.

FOR SHREWSBURY AND LONG BRANCH.—The strong and commodious steamboat SEA BIRD, Capt. H. B. PARKER, will leave foot of Chambers-st. Fare reduced to 25 cents.

LEAVE NEW-YORK.		LEAVE RED BANK.	
Tuesday, Dec. 3,	11:30 A. M.	Wednesday, 4th,	9:30 A. M.
Thursday, Dec. 5,	1 P. M.	Friday, Dec. 6,	11 A. M.
Saturday, Dec. 7,	2 P. M.	Monday, Dec. 9,	1 P. M.
Tuesday, Dec. 10,	1 P. M.	Wednesday, 11th,	7:30 A. M.
Thursday, Dec. 12,	8 A. M.	Friday, Dec. 13,	8 A. M.
Saturday, Dec. 14,	10 A. M.	Monday, Dec. 16,	8 A. M.
Tuesday, Dec. 17,	12 M.	Wednesday, 18th,	10 A. M.
Thursday, Dec. 19,	1:30 P. M.	Friday, Dec. 20,	12 M.
Saturday, Dec. 21,	2 P. M.	Monday, Dec. 23,	1:30 A. M.

CHANGE OF HOUR.

The New-Haven Trans. Co.'s steamers will leave pier 26 E. R., foot of Roosevelt-st. after Monday, Nov. 4, at 4 P. M., instead of 6 as heretofore. Saturday night at 12, as usual.

FOR NEW-HAVEN, HARTFORD AND THE NORTH.—Steamers leave Peck-slip for New-Haven at 5:15 and 11 P. M., connecting with the railroad.

FOR SALE—THE STEAMBOAT JOHN ROMER.—By order of the Greenwich and Rye Steamboat Co., the steamboat JOHN ROMER, well known as the fastest boat of her class in these waters, will be sold, without reserve, by Burdett, Jones & Co., on THURSDAY, Jan. 9, at 1 o'clock. For full particulars apply at ABERDEEN DOCK, No. 116 Beekman-st., or C. & P. POILLON, No. 224 South-st.

RAILROADS.

NEW-JERSEY RAILROAD FROM FOOT OF CORTLANDT-ST.

A DOUBLE-TRACK PASSENGER LINE FOR THE SOUTH AND WEST.

By this route passengers do not change cars for 758 miles; save 48 miles to Chicago, 115 to Cincinnati, 380 to Mobile, 115 to Cincinnati, 210 to Memphis, and 270 miles to New-Orleans.

Four through Express Trains daily: 8:40 A. M., 12 noon, 5 P. M., and 7:30 P. M. On Sundays, 7:30 P. M. only.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT, COMMENCING MONDAY, DEC. 16, 1867.

7 A. M.—Express for Philadelphia, (Walnut-st. Wharf.)
8:40 A. M.—Express for Baltimore, Washington and Pittsburgh without change of cars, making close connections at Pittsburgh and Baltimore for the West, and at Baltimore and Washington for the South.
10 A. M.—Express for West Philadelphia.
12 Noon—Express for West Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, connecting at Baltimore with Western lines, via Harrisburg and Parkersburgh.
2 P. M.—Accommodation for Philadelphia, (Walnut-st. Wharf.)
4 P. M.—Express for Philadelphia, (Walnut-st. Wharf.)
5 P. M.—Cincinnati Express for West Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Silver-palace cars attached to this train, and run through to Cincinnati without change, making but one change of cars to St. Louis and Chicago.
6:30 P. M.—Express for Philadelphia, (Kensington Depot.)
7:30 P. M.—Express for Baltimore and Washington (without change, connecting at Pittsburgh with sleeping cars from New-York to Altoona) and Baltimore, with trains for the West, and at Wilmington, Del., and Washington for the South.

Tickets can be obtained and baggage checked through at all houses of the day, at the Company's ticket office, foot of Cortlandt-st. Also, at Depot Jersey City; Market-st. Station, Newark; Elizabeth, and at ticket offices and the principal hotels in New-York.

Local trains from New-York to Newark, Elizabeth, Perth Amboy, New-Brunswick, &c., at intervals of ten to sixty minutes between 6 A. M. and 12 midnight.

F. W. JACKSON,
General Superintendent.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

FOR SALE—A LEASE OF A LARGE MANUfacturing silverware workshop, in complete working order, with engine and boiler nearly new, together with shafting, pulleys and belting, all in good order, and ready for 18 silversmiths to go to work; together, also, with all the stamps and tools, and fixtures of every nature appertaining to the business. This is the well-known old established house of the late Mr. Gibney, No. 63 Prince-st. It will be sold low if applied for soon.

Apply to AARON HARDMAN, No. 135 Grand-st., near Broadway, New-York.

$75,000 WANTED—SPECIAL OR ACtive, with the above amount, to join two active businessmen in the cash woolen jobbing and package business, in this City. The advertisers have cash capital, and first-class connections; control a large trade, and are at present active partners in one of the largest and most popular woolen houses in this City. Communications confidential. Address, with name and residence, (none others noticed,) CASH WOOLEN HOUSE, Box No. 164 *Times* Office, New-York City.

$20,000.—THIS AMOUNT, TO TAKE THE PLACE OF A retiring par ner in a lucrative manufacturing business. For further particulars inquire of W. HAUFF, No. 41 Park-row, Room No. 2.

FOR SALE—THE STOCK, FIXTURES AND lease of a retail grocery store in Vesey-st., now doing a good cash business. For particulars, address S. B., Box No. 150 *Times* Office.

FOR SALE—THE STOCK, FIXTURES AND lease of a tea and coffee store, in Vesey-st., now doing a good cash business. For particulars address B. G., Box No. 150 *Times* Office.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR ARMY TRANSPORTATION.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, Nov. 15, 1867.

Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 12 o'clock M. the 11th of January, 1868, for the transportation of military supplies during the year commencing April 1, 1868, and ending March 31, 1869, on the following routes:

ROUTE NO. 2.

From Fort Harker, Kansas, Fort Hays, Kansas, and any other point or points that may be designated by the Chief Quartermaster Department of the Missouri, on the Union Pacific Railroad, E. D., to any places that may be designated by the shipping officer, in the State of Kansas and Territory of Colorado south of latitude 40 degrees North, and to Fort Union, New-Mexico, or other depot that may be designated in that Territory, and to any other points on the route to that depot.

ROUTE NO. 3.

From Fort Union, or such other depot as may be established in the Territory of New-Mexico, to any posts or stations that are or may be established in that Territory, and to such posts or stations as may be designated in the Territory of Arizona, and in the State of Texas west of longitude 105 degrees.

ROUTE NO. 5.

From such point as may be designated on the Missouri Pacific Railroad, or the South-west Branch of Missouri Pacific Railroad, or the Union Pacific Railroad, E. D., to Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, or such other point as may be established as the military depot in that Territory.

The weight to be transported during the year will not exceed on Route No. 2, 20,000,000 pounds; on Route No. 3, 5,000,000 pounds; and on Route No. 5, 10,000,000 pounds.

Proposals will be made for each route separately.

Bidders will state the rate per 100 pounds per 100 miles at which they will transport the stores in each month of the year, beginning April 1, 1868, and ending March 31, 1869.

Bidders will give their names in full, as well as their places of residence, and each proposal must be accompanied by a bond in the sum of ten thousand ($10,000) dollars, duly executed by two or more responsible persons, in legal form and properly stamped, guaranteeing that in case the contract is awarded for the route mentioned in the proposal to the party proposing, it will be accepted and entered into, and good and sufficient security furnished by said party in accordance with the terms of this advertisement.

Each bidder must be present at the opening of the proposals, in person or by authorized agent or attorney.

The contractor will be required to give $250,000 bonds.

Satisfactory evidence of the loyalty and solvency of each bidder and person offered as security will be required.

Proposals must be indorsed, "Proposals for Army Transportation on Route No. 1," and none will be entertained unless they fully comply with the requirements of this advertisement.

The party to whom the award is made must be prepared to execute the contract at once, and to give the required bonds for the faithful performance of the contract.

The right to reject any and all bids that may be offered is reserved.

The contractor must be in readiness for service by the 1st day of April, 1868, and will be required to have a place of business or agency at which he may be communicated with promptly and readily, for Route No. 2, at Cheyenne, Dakotah, or at such other point as may be indicated as the starting point of the route.

Blank forms, showing the conditions of the contract to be entered into can be had on application at this office, or at the office of the Quartermaster at New-York, St. Louis, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, or Omaha, Nebraska, and must accompany and be a part of the proposals.

By order of the Quartermaster-General,
WM. MYERS, Brevet Brig.-Gen.,
Chief Quartermaster,
Department of the Platte.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

CORPORATION NOTICE.—PUBLIC NOtice is hereby given to the owner or owners, occupant or occupants of all houses and lots, improved or unimproved lands, affected thereby, that the following assessments have been completed and are lodged in the office of the Board of Assessors for examination by all persons interested, viz.:

1. For paving with trap-block pavement Ninety-second-street from Third-avenue to East River.

2. For building sewers in Washington-street, between Beach and Harrison streets; also in Hudson-street between Franklin and Jay streets, and also in North Moore-street, between Hudson-street and West Broadway, with branch in Varick-street.

3. For paving with stone blocks Spring-street, from Broadway to West-street.

4. For building a sewer in Fifty-second-street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

5. For building basin on the northwest corner of Mercer-street and Howard streets.

6. For building basin on the northeast corner of Mercer-street and Canal streets.

7. For paving with stone blocks Church-street, from Chambers to Canal-street.

8. For flagging sidewalks in Fifty-first-street, from Third-avenue to Lexington-avenue.

9. For flagging sidewalks on the west side of Eighth-avenue, between Forty-second and Forty-third streets.

10. For paving with stone blocks Thirty-fifth-street, from Third to Fifth avenues.

The lists embraced by such assessment include all the several houses and lots of ground, vacant lots, pieces and parcels of land, situated on

1. Both sides of Ninety-second-street, from Third-avenue to the East River, to the extent of half the block from Ninety-second-street.

2. Both sides of Washington-street, between Beach and Harrison streets; also both sides of Washington-street, between Watts and Canal streets; also both sides of Hudson-street, between Franklin and Jay streets; also both sides of North Moore-street, between Hudson and West Broadway; also both sides of Varick-street, between Beach and North Moore streets.

3. Both sides of Spring, from Broadway to West-street, to the extent of half the block from Spring-street.

4. Both sides of Fifty-second-street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

5. The east side of Mercer-street, from Grand to Howard-street; also the south side of Grand-street and the east side of Howard-street, from Broadway to Mercer-street.

6. The south side of Howard-street and the north side of Canal-street, from Broadway to Mercer-street; also the east side of Mercer-street, from Howard to Canal-street.

7. Both sides of Church-street, from Chambers to Canal-street, to the extent of half the block from Church-street.

8. Both sides of Fifty-first-street, from Third-avenue to Lexington-avenue.

9. Four lots on the west side of Eighth-avenue, commencing at the southwest corner of Eighth-avenue and Forty-second-street, and running 106 feet southerly on Eighth-avenue.

10. Both sides of Thirty-fifth-street, from Third to Fifth avenues, to the extent of half the block from Thirty-fifth-street.

All persons whose interests are affected by the above-named assessments, and who are opposed to the same, or either or them, are requested to present their objections in writing to JACOB F. OAKLEY, Chairman of the Board of Assessors, at their office, No. 32 Chambers-street, basement New Court-house, within thirty days from date of this notice.

JACOB F. OAKLEY,
JOHN D. OTTIWELL,
JAMES J. WILD,
Board of Assessors.

OFFICE BOARD OF ASSESSORS,
NEW COURT-HOUSE, Dec. 5, 1867.

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE—THAT ON the 11th day of December, A. D. 1867, a warrant in bankruptcy was issued against the estate of EDWARD F. TRACY, of the City of New-York, in the County of New-York and State of New-York, formerly of the firm of Smith & Tracy, who has been adjudged a bankrupt, on his own petition; that the payment of any debts and delivery of any property belonging to such bankrupt, to him or for his use, and the transfer of any property by him are forbidden by law; that a meeting of the creditors of the said bankrupt, to prove their debts and to choose one or more assignees of his estate, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy, to be holden at No. 7 Beekman-st., corner of Nassau-st., Rooms Nos. 3and 4, in the Cityof New-York, oefore Mr. James F. Dwight, Register, on the 11th day of February, A. D. 1868, at 12 o'clock M.

R. MURRAY, U. S. Marshal,
As Messenger, Southern District of New-York.

DEC. 15, 1867.

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE—THAT ON the 10th day of December, A. D. 1867, a warrant in bankruptcy was issued against the estate of EDGAR H. BRUSH, of the City of New-York, in the County of New-York and State of New-York, who has been adjudged a bankrupt, on his own petition; that the payment of any debts and delivery of any property belonging to such bankrupt, to him or for his use, and the transfer of any property by him, are forbidden by law; that a meeting of the creditors of the said bankrupt, to prove their debts and to choose one or more assignees of his estate, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy, to be holden at No. 57 Broadway, in the City of New-York, before Isaiah S. Williams, Register, on the 26th day of December, A. D. 1867, at 12 o'clock M.

R. MURRAY, U. S. Marshal,
as Messenger, Southern District of New-York.

DEC. 12, 1867.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 16th day of December, 1867, I shall proceed to draw Jurors for the following Courts to be held in and for the City and County of New-York, on the 6th day of January, 1868:

Two panels of 180 Petit Jurors, each, for a Supreme Court, Circuit, Parts 1 and 2.

Two panels of 104 Petit Jurors, each for a Superior Court, Parts 1and 2.

A panel of 36 Grand Jurors for a Court of General Sessions.

A panel of 180 Petit Jurors for a Court of General Sessions.

WM. C. CONNER, Clerk.

AUCTION SALES.

HENRY D. MINER, Auctioneer.
Salesroom No. 37 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office.
Very valuable private collection of

ORIGINAL MODERN OIL PAINTINGS,

Now on exhibition, free,
At the Somerville Art Gallery,
No. 845 Broadway.

MINER & SOMERVILLE will sell at auction, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, Dec. 17 and 18, at 7½ o'clock, at the Somerville Art Gallery, No. 845 Broadway, an extensive and very valuable collection of modern pictures, including the private gallery of Frederick W. Martens, Esq., well known as the result of careful selection and liberal expenditure during many years, and containing many beautiful and costly works of various schools, by the following artists: Gustav de Jonghe, Patrois, H. Baron, Dell Aqqua, J. Robie, Gesellschap, Koek Kook, L. de Meux, W. Amberg, Sonderland, Schlesinger, Otto Erdman, Carl Hoff, Comte de Bylandt, Henn Burgess, Serrure, Litschauer, C. Verlat, Louis Robbe, C. Springher, E. de Block, T. R. Tast, W. Camphausen, T. Roffiaen, Muller, M. Calisch, W. Gentz, Wm. Hart, E. F. Percy, Lasalle, Haynes King, W. Shayer, Huygens, Van Os, D. Denoter, A. Dillens, Haglestein, W. Lanning and other distinguished artists.

A Grand Market Scene in Cairo, Egypt, by W. Gentz. Shepherdess with Sheep and Lambs, by Louis Robbe. A Grand Composition of Fruit and Flowers, by J. Roble.

The above are now on exhibition from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M., and on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday evenings previous to sale.

HENRY H. LEEDS, Auctioneer.

BY HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER.

On WEDNESDAY, Dec. 18, at 11 o'clock, at their salesroom, No. 93 Liberty-st.,

IMPORTANT SALE OF WINES AND LIQUORS,

Being the remaining stock of Messrs. L. & W. Geery. This collection comprises choice and select Wines of Clarets, Hocks, Burgundies and Champagnes, which will be sold without reserve, viz.:

CLARETS.—Chateau, Leoville, Mouton, Margaux, Lafitte and other fine Clarets.

BURGUNDIES—Clos-Vongeot, Romanee, Nuits, Pomards.

HOCKS—Niersteiner, Reidesheimer, Marcobrunner, and others.

CHAMPAGNES—De Venoge, Bampo, Mumm, Verzenay, Moet & Chandon, and other favorite Wines.

Also, some very old Brandy and Sherry, from private stocks.

HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER, Auctioneers.

FANCY GOODS, CLOCKS, &c.

HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER will sell at auction on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, Dec. 20 and 21, at 10½ o'clock, at their Salesroom, No. 93 Liberty-st., elegant fancy goods, clocks, &c., comprising richly-decorated vases, dinner and dessert sets, superbly decorated bisque figures, parian do., silver-plated ware, consisting of cake baskets, napkin rings, knives and forks, tea sets, &c. Particulars hereafter.

HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER, Auctioneers.

DIAMOND JEWELRY, CAMELS' HAIR SHAWLS, CLOCKS, &c.

HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER will sell at auction on MONDAY, Dec. 23, at 11 o'clock, at their salesroom, No. 93 Liberty-st.,

ELEGANT DIAMOND JEWELRY, CLOCKS, CAMELS' HAIR SHAWLS, &c. Particulars hereafter.

HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER, Auctioneers.

NOW AT PRIVATE SALE, AT

HENRY H. LEEDS & MINER'S

Auction Salesroom, No. 93 Liberty-st.,

A first-class Alexandre Organ, double bank, rosewood case, eight-pipe and double-bank couplers; will be sold reasonable; in thorough order.

HENRY D. MINER, Auctioneer, Salesroom 37 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office.

SALE OF A SUPERB AND COSTLY INVOICE OF ITALIAN MARBLE AND ALABASTER STATUARY AND VASES, REAL FLORENTINE MOSAIC ARTISTIC BRONZES, GROUPS AND FIGURES, EXTRA RICH MARBLE AND BRONZE CLOCKS, SUPERIOR SILVER-PLATED WARE, &c., &c.—THE IMPORTATION OF L. ZANONI & CO., OF FLORENCE, JUST RECEIVED PER SHIPS EUTERPE AND VALPARAISO.

MINER & SOMERVILLE will sell at auction MONDAY, TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, 16th, 17th and 18th inst., at 11 o'clock, at their saleroom, No. 37 Nassau-st., one of the largest and most elegant invoices of statuary, bronzes, &c., ever offered at auction by the above firm, sel

THE WEATHER.

Moderation of the Storm—The City Streets Yesterday—Railroad and Steamboat Travel Resumed—Casualties and Storm Items Generally.

Yesterday, although during the early part of the day the temperature was but a few degrees lower than that of the day previous, the weather was quite sufferable, even to many enjoyable; but as the day advanced the sky became again hidden with snow-clouds, threatening a renewal of the storm. There were several slight falls of snow during the afternoon and evening, but at a late hour last night these had not made a deposit deep enough to add to the already existing obstructions to travel.

STREET RAILROAD CARS.

Owing to the extra horses required to draw the cars which are running on the several lines in the City, of course the number of cars is inadequate to the needs of passengers, and as a consequence thousands of our people had so walk home last evening again from business. Many of these foot passengers had to travel long distances before reaching their firesides, and on arriving had excellent opportunities afforded of estimating the time between down town and up town, *a la* WEBSTER.

In consequence of the crowded condition of the cars which did run, the omnibuses fell in for a benefit and carried full loads of passengers, who must have endured terrible bumpings as the old-fashioned vehicles jolted their weary ways. There being little to choose between Nicholson, Belgian and other pavements, drivers had to make the best of the roadways, covered as they were with very unlevel snow banks. As usual, in snow-storms in this City, a large amount of profanity was used to round the corners by the drivers, a style of vernacular which fails to give satisfaction just as it proves insufficient to assist the poor horses in the drawing of their loads. Drivers' rhetoric was abundant in Broadway all day yesterday, and if CHARLES DICKENS could have availed himself of the opportunities offered, he might have furnished himself with a new variety of characters from which to draw material for a Christmas story.

The Third-avenue Railroad Company having employed a large force of laborers along their track to bank up the snow on either side, they were enabled to run their cars with tolerable regularity.

The Broadway and Thirty-fourth-street cars were also run at intervals, keeping the demand for passage measurably supplied.

The Sixth and Eighth-avenue cars were ran with regularity all day, a thorough force of workmen being kept on the tracks to clear them of the snow.

The Harlem lines were not running at all, a fact which caused a great deal of grumbling on the part of the people accustomed to use them to go to and to leave business, but there was no help but to trudge through the snow, be the distance long or short.

The Brooklyn railroads had similar difficulties to deal with to those in New-York, and as here so there, the cars on some of the routes were not turned out at all. The Fulton and Graham avenue cars did not make their appearance on the track; those on Myrtle-avenue and Greenpoint carrying passengers to the Classon-avenue terminus, thus keeping the traffic to some extent.

THE FERRIES.

All the ferries were operated almost as usual, some of them running their boats at longer intervals than in good weather. On the Fulton and Williamsburgh ferries there was much exchanging on the part of passengers who were side at distant points, owing to the desire to obtain the nearest if not the quickest method of reaching home in safety.

THE STEAMSHIP LINES.

The steamship *Eagle*, for Havana, which should have sailed on Thursday afternoon, was detained at her wharf, Pier No. 4, until Friday, so as to avoid danger in leaving the harbor.

Yesterday the French steamship *Pereire* sailed for Havre and Brest.

The steamships *United Kingdom*, for Liverpool and Glasgow, the *France*, for Liverpool, the *San Salvador*, for Savannah, the *Champion* for Charleston, the *Gen. Grant*, for New-Orleans, and the *Ena* for Aspinwall, all sailed, having steamed down the bay before the new snow-storm began to show itself.

THE EXPRESS COMPANIES.

There did no appear to be any dropping off in the efforts on the part of the various express companies to forward goods left in their care for transportation. The Adams Express Company had large sleighs, which were driven with dispatch to the various railroad depots with piles of goods. So other companies also availed themselves of the facilities of sleighs to some extent.

WALL AND BROAD STREETS.

In the afternoon the scene in Wall and Broad streets was very exciting. Carriages and sleighs vied with each other for places. The sleighs, which were out in great numbers, were mostly occupied in part by ladies who had gone thither to wait for their husbands going home from business, and these, as they turned up Wall-street for Broadway, left the carriages far in the rear.

THE NEW-HAVEN NIGHT BOAT WITHDRAWN.

The New-Haven night boat from Peck-slip left for the last time this season, at 11 o'clock last night. Hereafter the boats will sail at 3:15 P. M. as usual.

THE RAILROADS.

The immense amount of labor brought to bear upon the tracks of the various roads lead in from the Metropolis soon reduced the quantity of snow by which they were obstructed, and the trains on the principal roads were started at the usual hours as per time-table, and there was considerable regularity in the arrival of trains, except by the Shore Line from Boston and the Long Island Road. The people on Long Island are completely snowed in, and the prospect bids fair that they will have to remain so until the sun comes to their assistance and melts the snow. Other agencies operate slowly, it at all.

THE MAILS.

The arrival of the mails provides a very correct index of the condition of the railroads.

The mail which left Boston at 7 o'clock Friday morning, arrived at the New-York office at 4:45 yesterday morning.

The Southern mail, by way of Washington, due in this City at 5:30 P. M. Friday, arrived at 8:35 P. M.

The Southern mail, due at 5:30 yesterday morning, was only one hour late.

The Northern mail, due at 7 o'clock yesterday morning, arrived at 11:30.

The Western mails, by the New-Jersey Central, due at 5 o'clock Friday morning, arrived at 10:15 yesterday morning.

The Boston mail, due at 5 o'clock yesterday morning, arrived at 9:50 A. M.

The mail which left Boston by way of the Shore line at 8:30 P. M. on Thursday, has not yet arrived. When last heard from it was at New-London.

The Erie mails came in only one hour too late.

All mail trains, except by the New-Jersey Central, left on time yesterday morning. Yesterday evening the trains on this line left on time.

The absence of the late indefatigable superintendent STEARNS on the New-Jersey Central Railroad is very much felt this Winter. Indeed the vacancy made by his death has not been so thoroughly felt as now. At 4 o'clock P. M. on Friday about 500 passengers left by this road and got as far as Claremont, when they were stopped by the snow drifts. After long delay and much unhappy experience of cold, at 9 o'clock the passengers were brought back and were compelled to remain in the City for the night.

SLEIGHING AND SKATING.

Everybody who had a sleigh and an opportunity to use it, was out yesterday some time during the day. The Park had its thousands of visitors, who arrived, made the rounds, and left it in this happy fashion. Fifth-avenue was from end to end inundated by two unceasing streams, one moving north, the other south, and the air was flooded with the cheery shouts of the drivers, the merry laughter of sleigh occupants and the music of sleigh-bells. This is also true, in a lesser degree, of all the leading thoroughfares. Brooklyn, always joyous in sleighing times, was supremely happy yesterday.

The labors of clearing off the ponds are heavy, and are by no means yet completed. There is therefore no skating to boast of. Many men, however, were at work, in both this City and in Brooklyn yesterday, to get the ice clear, and unless the threatening storm does come down, the carnival, so called, will no doubt set in to-morrow. It is hardly reasonable, however, to expect good ice to show itself from beneath its heavy burden of snow, drifted in many of the ponds full ten feet high along the sides. Skating on the lakes cannot be looked for for several days yet, however clear and frosty the weather may be.

IN BROOKLYN.

City sleighing in Brooklyn is tolerable; but, in consequence of the dryness of the snow, not as good as it would be if there was a slight thaw to pack it more closely. The country roads are not broken; and it is next to impossible to go through them, because of the heavy drifts. There has been no communication with Coney Island yet, except in two or three instances where a few sleighs have succeeded in going through by deviating from the road, going over fields and taking long circuits to reach their destination. Neither has there been any communication with East New-York, or Bath, for the past three days. The railroads to those places are completely obstructed, and watercourse to them by water is stopped, no boats being running. In thoroughfares where railway tracks are laid, the centre of the roads has been cleared by men and snow-ploughs, and large banks of snow are being placed at each side, so as to clear, indeed, to the tracks that it is with difficulty people can get on the cars. For the first time since the storm, all the lines have now resumed operations as far as the city bounds; among the rest the Greenpoint line, which had been suspended since Thursday afternoon. The cars are now running with tolerable regularity, and are so packed even on leaving the ferry, that double teams of horses are necessary, and crowds must foot it to their homes. It is a very bad wind that does not blow somebody good, the truth of which has been verified during the past few days, many poor men having earned, since Thursday, some $7 or $8 each day. Yesterday, sections were busily engaged in clearing away the passages to the various churches for the accommodation of the different congregations. The water in the pipes in many places has been frozen. Skating is done up for the present, and parties are busily employed in carting away the snow, preparing the ponds for Monday.

CASUALTIES.

THOMAS REALL, aged 40 years, was caught in the storm in an uninhabited portion of the Ninth Ward, on Thursday night, and although nearly exhausted, has sufficient self-possession to keep moving until he reached a house. It was then ascertained that his feet, hands and face were badly frost-bitten. He was in so helpless a condition that it was found necessary to convey him to the City Hospital.

Brooklyn seems to have been most prolific in casualties, as the following list shows:

ROBERT NASH, residing with his parents at No. 119 Bridge-street, was found lying in a snow-bank near the corner of Main and Prospect streets, at a late hour on Friday evening. He was discovered by Officer BROWN, who, together with Capt. JACOBS, conducted him to the Forty-second Precinct Station-house, where it was found that his hands were frost-bitten.

The woman whose death by exposure on Thursday night was reported in yesterday's TIMES, was named MARTHA O. MEYER, a negress, about 40 years of age. She was on her way home with an old man named MATTHEW BIRD, who was too much exhausted to rescue her. When he had procured assistance the woman was found frozen to death.

Yesterday morning THOS. FURNS, of No. 117 Butler-street, was found in the area of his house frozen to death. It is said that he was turned out by his family—a circumstance the Coroner will investigate.

THOS. RALL was found by Officer WILMARTH, of the Forty-ninth Precinct, badly frozen in his hands, feet and face. He was taken to the hospital.

A man whose name was not ascertained was found night before last sitting in a snow-bank overcome by liquor as well as by the storm. He was taken to the station-house, thawed out, and sent home.

Chief Engineer CUNNINGHAM suggests that citizens, before whose doors hydrants are located, should clear the snow from them, so that they may be easily reached in case of fire.

Rev. Mr. BEECHER was unable to be present at the time advertised for laying the corner-stone of the new Bethel Mission building yesterday afternoon, being "snowed in" somewhere between Boston and New-York, as was announced by Mr. BELL, the Superintendent of the school. The exercises are to take place to-morrow afternoon.

STORM TELEGRAMS.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Saturday, Dec. 14.

At 7 o'clock this morning the thermometer indicated 24° below zero, and at 9 o'clock 18° below zero.

Three days' mails from the South arrived last night.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 14.

The delayed Southern mails have all arrived.

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Dec. 14.

A violent snow storm has prevailed here since noon, with a high wind from the northeast.

RICHMOND, Va., Saturday, Dec. 14.

The weather is excessively cold here. A man was frozen to death in the suburbs of the city last night.

BROOKLYN, EASTERN DISTRICT.

Great Building Enterprise—Churches, Factories and Dwellings in Process of Erection—The Wallabout Schleswig-Holstein Difficulty — Progress and Prospects of Greenpoint, &c.

The limited accommodations furnished by the City of New-York for business and residence, has given a grand impetus to building in the City of Brooklyn, and particularly in the Eastern District, more familiarly known to us as Williamsburgh, and this, notwithstanding many discouragements, such as antiquated ferry facilities, a "one horse" Post-office, and other such-like farcical institutions. Since the beginning of September last the sum of $2,000,000 has been invested in building houses and factories east of the line which divides the Eastern from the Western District—east of the Wallabout and Flushing-avenue. If Williamsburgh was provided with a decent ferry, there would have been even more houses built than are accounted for, as people unable and unwilling to pay the exorbitant rents and the tremendous taxes of this City, have been constrained to move over the river and there take up their abodes, some of them having erected houses for themselves, while others having to be provided for have had houses built for them. One objection which manufacturers formerly had to locating in Williamsburgh, was based on the fact that the river-front was shut off from them. This has been removed. During the past Summer Street Commissioner FUREY made a raid along the whole river-front in both districts, breaking down all obstructions calculated to prevent citizens reaching the river, or business people the privilege of using it in a legitimate way.

Among the new settlers are D. APPLETON & Co., publishers, whose book factory on Kent avenue, extending from Hewes to Penn street, is fast approaching completion. The five-story wing, which is to be the bindery, at the corner of Kent avenue and Hewes-street, now peers up above the buildings in that region, and is easily observable above the river. The printing department is to be in the unique building on Kent-avenue and Penn-street. The transformation of a portion and the building of a large part of these works have been going on for several months. When this establishment is finished it will cause a number of persons to transfer their residences to Williamsburg, and will afford employment to men and women in considerable numbers. The buildings connected with this concern form a very large group, and constitute an important addition to the manufacturing edifices in the Eastern District of Brooklyn.

The American Steel Works is a new and handsome building, fronting on Kent-avenue at the corner of Keap-street. This establishment, when in full running order, will give employment to at least a hundred men and boys.

Broadway, or what was formerly known as South Seventh-street, has been widened, adding forty feet to its breadth, giving an aspect of importance to the District, as the visitor first views it after stepping from the ferry-board. Along the line of this street many of the buildings have been remodelled, and some new ones have been erected, all in a form such as is calculated to increase the beauty of that part of Brooklyn. The Brooklyn *Times* office has received a new and magnificent front, with large sash windows, the interior furniture having been thoroughly replenished, the whole being transformed into an adornment indicative of judicious taste, as well as enterprise. On the opposite side of the way, the Dime Savings Bank is having a new building erected for its accommodation. A new flour mill is in process of construction at the corner of Dunham-place, which will probably be useful if it does not promise to be ornamental. At the corner of Fourth-street the new building of the Kings County Savings Bank is going up. Its design is in the Italian style; it will have a Mansard roof; the whole exterior will, when finished, be of light Ohio stone. The building will cost $86,920, and will be ready for occupation by May next. During the past Summer and all through the Fall, the street, from the ferry up, has been kept in a very disorderly condition incident to the moving back of many of the houses on the side of the improvement, but now the rubbish is being fast cleared away, and Broadway will soon be presented in all its magnificence to goers and comers.

In Bedford-avenue, St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church is fast approaching completion. This edifice will be very large and commodious. It is intended to have the most ample rooms for class, Sabbath-school and other meetings, to be found in America. It is also contemplated, we understand, to have an organ superior in size, strength of tone, and at least equal in beauty to the "big organ," at Plymouth Church. At the corner of Clymer-street and the avenue, the Reformed Church, Rev. Dr. PORTER, pastor, is in process of erection; the corner-stone of this edifice will be laid in the Spring of 1868. Bedford-avenue itself is being put in order for a fine pavement, under the auspices of commissioners. They have elevated the grade of a considerable portion of it, and have executed the very delicate task of raising the water pipes which run through a portion of the avenue. Sewer connections have been laid with every building lot, whether occupied or not, and everything will be put in excellent order for occupancy by first-class houses. Some elegant structures have been put up at the corner of Wilson street, which are not yet completed.

Frame houses continue to be built, although the general impression is that new wooden edifices can only be erected in violation of law, or by special arrangement with the Fire Wardens, officers whose duty it is to prevent the building of such houses within the "Fire Limits."

In Grand, Ewen, South Ninth, Fifth, Remsen, Meserole, Third, Taylor, Hewes, Hooper, Wilson and Penn streets, Bedford, Lee, Wythe, Graham, Montrose, Bushwick, Union and Kent avenues, houses have been erected since last August, and many are now building, involving a very heavy outlay of capital, and affording labor to a large force of workmen, including stone and brick masons, excavators, carpenters, painters, plasterers, plumbers, &c. Many of the houses, built as tenements, are without the proper sanitary arrangements, and evince on the part of their owners little or no consideration of the wants and necessities of human beings. Stairs are built narrow, landings or corridors are without light or ventilation, and the plans, in many cases, appear to presuppose the existence of a lower order of civilization than that which is usually regarded as the standard of these days.

The work of sewerage has been pushed along with a vigor that will tell beneficially upon the population of the densely crowded districts in the course of another year. The River-street sewer drains the Six-teenth and Eighteenth Wards, emptying itself into the river at Wallabout.

Lee-avenue is being slowly graded from Hewes-street across to Myrtle-avenue, and in time will present excellent opportunities for the occupancy of lots with good houses along the line allotted to.

The Wallabout difficulty, which has been as incomprehensible to Brooklynites generally as was the Schleswig-Holstein question to many people, is getting into such shape as to be easily understood by the commonest understanding. Formerly, Aldermen only understood it, but now that the people see the avenue being laid out and filled up across the marsh south of the Naval Hospital they begin to know what the Wallabout difficulty was all about. The contractor is filling up the ground very fast, and as the road is formed toward the river front, traversing the United States Government property, the people gradually get light on the subject. When the work is finished everybody will have a fair opportunity of understanding the Wallabout difficulty.

The names of the streets are very much needed in all parts of Brooklyn, but no where more than in the Eastern District. The street lamps might be provided with this great accommodation to pedestrians at very little expense, while the names on the corners of the streets would add much to the facility with which people find out where they are going.

Many of the residents in this district without experience, and notwithstanding his very obstinate notions of economy, it is generally hoped that he will at least practice as liberal, and careful, and progressive a policy as that on which Col. WOOD and Mayor BOOTH have carried the city through two terms of the Mayoralty. At present, the Eastern District of the City of Brooklyn is busy with enterprise, and promises to become a large and thriving place. Its adjunct, Greenpoint, is fast growing up also. About seventy new edifices of various kinds—factories and dwellings—have been built there since last July. At times there is stagnation, but only for short intervals. The dullness of the ship-building trade at the numerous yards along the river in this region appears to have had but little effect in retarding the progress of what is familiarly called the "Point," as other trades and occupations have taken its place. The forthcoming Summer promises to be prolific with employment for thousands of workmen who, through strikes, and following multitudes to do evil, found themselves weakest when they supposed they were strongest.

CHOLERA IN THE BAY.

The Cholera Ship Lord Brougham—Official Inspection by the Special Agent of the Commissioners of Emigration.

Owing to the fearful mortality on board the ship *Lord Brougham*, from Hamburg, in which seventy-five out of three hundred and fifty-eight passengers died of cholera at sea, the Commissioners of Emigration have exercised themselves in every direction to ascertain all the facts attending the calamity, that they might report satisfactorily to the public, so deeply concerned in all matters touching the approach of this fearful malady to our shores. The vessel has lain at Lower Quarantine since her arrival, and but for the storm her passengers would have been removed and the ship fumigated; but this, however desirable, it was found impracticable do during the prevalence of the wild weather, in one shape or other, prevailing since the vessel's arrival. It is gratifying, however, to learn that no further cases have occurred, and that the ship is not only free from disease of every kind, but is thoroughly clean, and the passengers as comfortable as it is possible to make them under the circumstances. On Wednesday morning last, the Commissioners dispatched their Special Agent, Capt. HENRY OTTO TAUE, to Lower Quarantine, there to make such inquiries and investigations as would go to make clear the causes of the fatality. That gentleman, who remained down the Bay during the fearful gale of Wednesday and Thursday, has returned, and hands in his report to the Commissioners of Emigration, of which the following is a synopsis:

STATEMENT OF CAPT. TAUE.

In accordance with my instructions from the agent of the Commissioners of Emigration, Mr. CASSELLI, to proceed on board the ship *Lord Brougham*, from Hamburg, to investigate the causes of the fatality at sea among the passengers of that vessel, I waited upon the consignees, Messrs. SOLOMAN and EDDY, of No. 23 South William-street, on Wednesday morning. These gentlemen at once accorded me the necessary facilities, and I proceeded on board the tow-boat *Wells*, engaged by the consignees, and about to go down to the vessel. Here I found *en route* for the passengers' use a quantity of fresh bread, meat, milk, and vegetables, and a thoughtful supply of tobacco and pipes, absolutely necessary to the comfort of storm-stayed Germans especially. I was informed during the down trip that this was the fourth trip with like supplies. At the upper quarantine, in the absence of Dr. SWINBURNE, Dr. REED supplied me with the necessary permit to board the *Lord Brougham*. On making myself known to Capt. PETER ERNEST JURGESON, that gentleman readily gave me access to all portions of the vessel, and to uninterrupted communications with the passengers. In talking with the people I told them to be quite unreserved in their statements; that they were now under the immediate protection of the authorities of the State of New-York, and that any complaints they had to make, whether against Captain, officers or ship, would be duly weighed, and that they would be heeded if they had been in any respect been subject to unfair treatment. That now was the proper time to prefer complaints, if they had them to make. I addressed the passengers in groups and conversed with them singly. The all but universal testimony given was that they had no complaints to make; that the ship's food and water were good, and that Captain, officers and crew were uniformly kind and courteous. The exception was in the case of two passengers, named BREESE and EVERT, who complained that the cook oversalted the cooked meat; this was all. I examined the food in store, similar to that supplied during the passage; it was good. Bread and all else in stock were in excellent condition, and of good quality. The provision of water was ample, a considerable quantity of that in use during the passage still remaining. I drank of it and pronounced it good and fresh. I had supposed that many of the passengers might have used for the first few days of their trip fresh provisions, fruit and the like which they had brought with them, and that the sudden change to the ship's food may have caused what has been one of the causes of the visitation of the cholera. In my experience as Captain of emigrant vessels I have known violent dysenteries arise from this cause. But in the case of the *Lord Brougham* my inquiries brought out the fact that the people began to use the ship's stores on the first day at sea, using it with avidity, or many of them, had brought with them. I carefully inspected the sanitary condition of the ship. I found her clean on deck and below decks; cleaner than is customary on emigrant vessels. The passengers stated that such was the condition of the vessel during the voyage. Passengers were naturally enough unhappy at being compelled to stay at quarantine during such tempestuous weather, and are most anxious that they should be permitted to come up to the City, all sickness having long since ceased on board. During my stay on board a male child was born. I left mother and baby both doing well. I further heard general expression of satisfaction with the medical treatment and attendance when and after the disease prevailed. As soon as the weather permits the passengers will be transferred to the Hospital ship, after which the vessel will be fumigated, the passengers returned to her and she will be permitted to come up to the City.

As the result of my investigations, my conclusion is that no blame can be attached to the Captain of the ship or his officers, either in acts of omission or commission, nor any blame to the ship's victualers or others in the fitting. I am satisfied from my inquiries that there were no evidences of disease among the passengers when they first got on board. I beg respectfully to call your attention to the subjoined list of the deaths showing the nationality of each deceased passenger. You will observe that of the seventy-five deaths, thirty-eight occurred among emigrants from Mecklenburg, in many of the villages of which Duchy it is known that cholera was raging. Further you will observe that of the first thirteen deaths ten were of the Mecklenburg people, showing to my mind that it is reasonable to conclude that with these the disease on board originated. The fact that the disease did not break out for twenty days after sailing is a remarkable one, taking in the theory that the seeds of the disease were brought on board for granted, nevertheless I see no other reasonable way to account for the origin of the disease. No doubt fright carried many off, who, otherwise, would have borne up against the attack, which does not seem to have been so violent as it was fatal. What I mean by this is that the attacks were not, as far as I can learn, accompanied by the agonizing cramps, concomitants of cholera.

Here follows, in Capt. TRUE'S statement, the list of passengers who died at sea, with the dates of death, age and the precise nationality of each:

Oct. 26—Johann Carl Harm, 1 years, Gr. Uhpahe, Mecklenburg; Gorthea Frdk. Joh. Marie Harm, 5 years, Gr. Uhpahe, Mecklenburg.

Oct. 30—Moritz Chr. Frdk. Schultz, 33 years, Trendenberg, Prussia.

Nov. 1—Ludvig Seemann, 33 years, Pampow, Mecklenburg; Chr. Frdk. Carl Witt, 62 years, Helpt, Mecklenburg; Johann Keding, 39 years, Brewisch, Prussia; Joh. Frdk. Theodor Hant, 3 years, Schlutow, Mecklenburg.

Nov. 2—Maria Freke Carle Kasch, 33 years, Wenzingen, Mecklenburg; Sophia Fredke. Johl Gutzmacher, 35 years, Sarnow, Mecklenburg; Johl Frdke. Caroline Schultz, 1 year, Freuslenburg, Prussia; Augusta Scharf, 10 years, Holzendorf, Mecklenburg.

Nov. 3—Christian Ehlert, 56 years, Dargelitz, Mecklenburg; John Joach. Carl Hant, 33½ years, Schluto, Mecklenburg; Joh. Joach. Chr. Wm. Kasch, 32 years, Schlutow, Mecklenburg; Christiana Maria Wilk, 34½ years, Vogtsdorf, Prussia; Johl Sophia Carol Karsten, 27 years, Remslenburg, Mecklenburg.

Nov. 4.—Mine Keding, 37 years, Bretwisch, Prussia; Carl Fred. Aug. Harms, 37 years, New-Stretlitz, Mecklenburg; Heimuth Chr. Carsten, 49 years, Demin, Prussia.

Nov. 5.—Fredk. John Carl Carsten, 13 years, Demin, Prussia; Anna Sophia Fürmann, 67 years, Liepen, Mecklenburg; John Carl Fredk. Leith, 38 years, Strelitz, New Brandenburg; Fredk. Wm. Chr. Loverenz, 3½ years, Glewitz, Prussia.

Nov. 6—Heinrich Rampert, 1 year, Gervien, Mecklenburgh; Hein'k Adolf Herm. Möller, 1 year, Pieseritz, Prussia; Fred'k Wilh Carl Keding, 13 years, Prussia; Ernst Joh. Wm. Rögor, 2 years, Niendorf Mecklenburg; Joh. Carl Martin Feuschnow, 3 years, Bronkow, Prussia; Joh. Carl Theodor Heybour, 5 years, Bronkow, Prussia.

Nov. 7—Christian Kasch, 9 weeks, Gnoyen, Mecklenburg; John Charles Fredericke Keding, 1 year, Bretwisch, Prussia.

Nov. 8—Carolina Sophie Marie Hant, 25 years, Gnoyen, Mecklenburg; Robert Max Carl Velgenbauer, 27 years, Janitzow, Mecklenburg; Wilhelm Heinrich Piper, 3 years, Brevenfelde, Mecklenburg; Joh. Joach. Carl Schroder, 44 years, Gross Roge, Mecklenburg; Fredericke Hart, 66 years, Gnoyen, Mecklenburg; Fredericke Wilhe. Marie Harm, 29 years, Heinfackenhagen, Mecklenburg; Carl Frederick Johan Harns, 3 years, Hahberg, Mecklenburg.

Nov. 9—Ida Corle. Hente. Velgenbauer, 1 year, Janitzow, Mecklenburg; Fredericke Brandt, 8 years, Lodmow, Prussia; Joh. Joach. Christ Franzbauer, 37 years, Rehnkow, Prussia.

Nov. 10—Jon. Chr. Frdk. Loverenz, 36 years, Glowitz, Prussia.

Nov. 11—Dorthea Frdke. Sophie Schade, 27 years, Gnöejen, Mecklenburg; Gustav Carl Frdk. Rath, 48 years, Poggelow, Prussia.

Nov. 12—Johanna Maria Lena Rath, 45 years, Wolgast, Prussia; Joh. Joach. Frdk. Kastorf, 64 years, Dargun, Mecklenburg; Bertha Heyse, 2 years, Palgrin, Prussia; Emilie Heyse, 4 years, Palgrin, Prussia; Wm. Herm. Gottlieb Schultz, 6 months, Hohen Schönau, Prussia.

Nov. 13—Fredk. Wilh. Joh. Harm, 1 year, Rehberg, Mecklenburg; Andreas Brunk, 5 years, Lankawo, Prussia; Wilhelmine Dettmann, 1 year, Lowitzow, Mecklenburg; Sophia Fredk. Joh. Rahsdorf, 30 years, Barkow, Prussia.

Nov. 14—Sophie Marie Dorthea Harm, 9 years, Gross Roge, Mecklenburg; John Marie Carle, Springstubbe, 39 years, Barnelda, Prussia.

Schlicht, Mecklenburg; Marie Elise Johe, Moller, 20

Nov. 15—Wilh. Joh. Fredk. Hoppenrath, 1 year, years, Sanow, Mecklenburgh.

Nov. 16—Carl Aug. Joh. Piper, 6 years, Bredenfelde, Mecklenburg; Frck. Ernst Joh. Chr. Schmidt, 1 year, Theikow, Mecklenburg; Ferdinand Wrage, 3 years, Vahl, Holstein.

Nov. 17—Christine Volkmann, 58 years, Hohenfeldt, Mecklenburg.

Nov. 18—Bertha Wilhe. Ernste. Baumgardt, 4 years, Neuendorf, Prussia.

Nov. 19—Caroline Dorthea Hardes, 67 years, Heinrichsnagen, Mecklenburg; Joachim Scharff, 56 years, Holzendorf, Mecklenburg.

Nov. 20—Johann Springstubbe, 15 weeks, Zarnin, Prussia; Frdke. Louise Wilhe. Keding, 3 years, Bretwisch, Prussia.

Nov. 21—Aug. Chr. Theodor Wolgast, 14 years, Plath, Mecklenburg; Joh. Joach. Theodor Moller, 32 years, Wustrow, Mecklenburg.

Nov. 22—Aug. Frdk. Edward Moller, 5 years, Maizdorf, Prussia; Carle Dorth. Maria Pruschnow, 30 years, Vosland, Prussia.

Nov. 23—Frdk. Martin Carl Chr. Moller, 2 years, Wustrow, Mecklenburg.

Nov. 24—Frdk. Carl Joh. Wilh. Loose, 6 years, Niendort, Mecklenburg; Johanne Christiane Broese, 20 years, Hohenbarnekow, Prussia.

Nov. 30—Wilh. Joh. Frdk. Schult, 3 months, Barkow, Prussia.

Dec. 2—Ludvig Carl Joh. Springstubbe, 2 years, Zarnitz, Prussia.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

Recent Changes—Miscellaneous News and Gossip.

We present our customary weekly *résumé* of National Guard news and gossip for the information of those interested:

RECENT CHANGES.

Only one commission was issued during the week ending Dec. 7, being that of Orin G. Staples as Quartermaster of the Thirty-fifth Regiment Infantry, rank Nov. 26, *vice* Munson, resigned.

The following resignations of officers were accepted by the Commander-in-Chief during the week ending Dec. 7:

Dec. 2.—Fifth Regiment, Chaplain Charles E. Eldy. Thirty-fifth Regiment, Quartermaster Henry S. Munson. Ninety-sixth Regiment, First Lieut. Charles Bernemann. One Hundred and First Regiment, Major S. F. Tremain. One Hundred and First Regiment, Col. Henry S. Armstrong.

Dec. 4.—Eighty-ninth Regiment, Second Lieut. E. A. Cruikshank. Eighty-ninth Regiment, Adj. D. Alliger.

SEVENTH REGIMENT PROMENADE CONCERT.

Gratulia's Seventh Regiment Band gave their second concert for the present season last evening, at Tammany Hall, over Tompkins' Market. Despite the snow-bound streets the concert was attended by a large and fashionable assemblage of the members of the regiment and their friends. The Winter toilettes of the ladies were all handsome and gave the rooms a gay look. The various company rooms on the second floor were handsomely fitted up and the guests luxuriated on the ottomans and softly cushioned seats so abundantly provided on every side. The officers' room is most gorgeously fitted up, and is always the centre of attraction to the fairer portion of the audience attending these excellent concerts. An usual the band was quite successful in the selection of the musical programme and was frequently applauded by the moving throng. The third concert will take place on Saturday, Jan. 11.

MILITARY BALLS.

Battery H, of the First Regiment Artillery, Capt. Karl Klein, intend giving their nineteenth annual ball on the 19th inst., at the Germania Assembly Rooms.

In the Fifth Regiment a large number of company balls are announced. Company B, Capt. Kloeber, will give one at the Germania Assembly Rooms on the 17th inst. Company G have their ball on Wednesday evening next at the armory in Houston-street. Company K will give their ball the succeeding evening (19th inst.) at the New-York Casino, on the corner of Mott and Houston stre ts, at which place Company F will also give their thirty-first ball on the 26th inst. No regimental ball will be given this season, though an informal one took place on the 9th inst., which was highly successful.

Company A, First Regiment, gave their third annual ball on the 11th inst., at Prenor's Rooms in Sixth-avenue. Capts. Gould, Childs and Webster were present, as were several citizens of Bridgeport, Conn., who had tendered the "Zou Zous" some hospitality last Summer.

The first promenade concert and social hop of I Company, Eighth Regiment Washington Greys, Capt. Cohen, will be held at the armory on Friday evening, Dec. 20. A pleasant time may be anticipated, as the Committee are making unusual exertions to secure success.

ELECTIONS.

On Monday evening an election was held by Company C of the Ninth Regiment, Major C. S. Strong presiding. The voting seemed all one way, resulting as follows: Private A. D. Davis to be Captain; Sergt. Jacob W. Schmidt to be First Lieutenant.

Company H, Ninth Regiment, held an election for commissioned and non-commissioned officers on the 6th inst., with the following result: Corporal John Raper, *vice* R. B. Young, resigned; First Lieutenant, Milton Benjamin, *vice* Raper, promoted; Second Lieutenant, John F. Smith, *vice* Benjamin, promoted; First Sergeant, Howard E. Sanford, *vice* Smith, promoted; Duty Sergeants, Calvin E. Steckel, *vice* Roche, resigned; Geo. W. Paddon, *vice* Coffey, resigned; Ed. J. S. Gaffney, *vice* Sanford, promoted; Corporals, Isaac C. Wilson, M. Clare and L. R. Carpenter.

An election was held last week in Company D, Fifth Regiment, where Second Lieutenant G. E. Wellenkamp was elected First Lieutenant, *vice* August Michael; Sergeant C. Lamb Second Lieutenant; Corporal Miller was elected Sergeant, and private G. Schelber Corporal.

In the Eleventh Regiment an election was held on Friday evening for the purpose of electing Field officers, which resulted as follows: Lieut.-Col. Henry Lux to be Colonel, *vice* Maidhoff, resigned; Major Unbekant to be Lieutenant-Colonel, *vice* Lux, promoted; Capt. Boeckle to be Major, *vice* Unbekant, promoted. Gen. Aspinwall presided.

Gen. Varian presided at an election held in the Eighth Regiment, on Thursday evening, for the purpose of electing a successor to Major Wm. Robinson, who has resigned, owing to ill health. Senior Capt. John Appleoy, of Company C, was unanimously elected to the position.

ANNIVERSARY DINNER.

The officers and members of Company C, Seventy-first Regiment, celebrated the sixteenth anniversary of their organization on Friday evening by a dinner at the Sinclair House, on the corner of Eighth-street and Broadway. Covers were laid for one hundred gentlemen, and nearly that number sat down to dinner. Among the guests present were Lieut.-Col. Harry Rockafellar, Ex-Lieut.-Col. Coles, Capt. Lee, Adjt. Francis, Ex-Capt. Hagadorn, and others whose names escaped us.

Speeches, humorous and patriotic, were made in response to the toasts which came in due order with the wines after the solids. These contained many sentiments of love for the Seventy-first Regiment, and evinced that warm pride in the "American Guard" that is so characteristic of the members on all occasions. The rooms were tastely ornamented by garrison flags and other military emblems.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Twenty-second Regiment intend giving a series of three promenade concerts during the Winter, tickets fifty cents each. Each company guarantees the sale of one hundred tickets, and receives an additional hundred for the benefit of the company fund. These concerts cannot fail to be successful. Dodworth's Band will furnish the music.

At the regular monthly meeting of Company D, First Regiment Hawkins' Zouaves, held at the armory on Thursday, Dec. 5, Capt. Marshall presiding, private Lewis Gaw was unanimously elected Fourth Corporal, *vice* Matthews, reduced. Private Michael Donnelly was elected Fifth Corporal, to fill vacancy. Young men of respectability are solicited to join this first-class organization. Members can be found at the armory every Thursday evening, from whom information can be obtained.

Company C of the Twenty-second Regiment spent a very busy evening on Wednesday last, by holding their regular monthly meeting and an election for civil officers. The evening was a very pleasant one, the rules being suspended. Capt. John H. Palmer was unanimously elected President of the Civic Association, and Messrs. Thomas G. Baker and William H. Hall were elected Treasurer and Secretary for the ensuing year. The handsome cash balance of $400 was announced as being in the hands of the Treasurer.

POLICE COURTS.

THE TOMBS—DOWLING, JUSTICE.

FEMALE PICKPOCKET.

Officer LAMOREUX, of the Broadway Squad, arrested SOPHIA ELKINS, *alias* Levy, *alias* LYONS, *alias* Kate Williams, a notorious pickpocket. When she was arraigned before the magistrate it appeared that Mrs. MATILDA C. OAKLEY, of No. 12 Grammercy Park-place, was the complainant, and she stated that as she passed down Broadway, near Thirteenth-street, at 4 o'clock, on Friday, she attempted to pass three women who impeded her progress. Mrs. OAKLEY succeeded in passing between the prisoner and her companion, and at the same moment felt some one touch her dress, which contained a purse with a small sum of money therein. SOPHIA was followed for some time by the complainant as she had missed the pocket-book, and succeeded in having her arrested as she left an omnibus. The prisoner asked Mrs. OAKLEY to talk low as she was innocent. While being searched SOPHIA attempted to secret a $20 bill, which was identified by Mrs. OAKLEY. The accused was fully committed.

STEAMBOAT THIEF.

MOSES DODD, of the Courtlandt-street Ferry-house, caused the arrest of PATRICK HAL, on a charge of stealing a coat and hat from the steamboat *Metropolis*, lying at the foot of Murray-street. As the prisoner was caught in the act, he was held for trial.

THE PISTOL.

SAMUEL LOGAN, employed on the steamship *United Kingdom*, and ANDREW MULLARKEY, a private watchman, of No. 345 East Thirty-second-street, quarrelled on Tuesday in the First Ward, when LOGAN shot his opponent through the hand, and escaped arrest until yesterday, when Officer HAY, of the Twenty-seventh Precinct, took him into custody. He was remanded in default of bail, to answer the charge at the Special Sessions.

ESSEX MARKET—SHANDLEY, JUSTICE.

ALLEGED THEFT.

Some days ago CHARLES L. SPILLBORN made some purchases at the grocery at the corner of Second-avenue and Third-street, and placing his wallet, containing $40, on the counter, went away forgetting it. Discovering his loss he returned soon afterward, and asked the clerk, KLAUS WINDERMANN, if he had seen the wallet. WINDER